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GOVERNMENT, PARTY DOCUMENT APPROVES SOVIET ACTIVITY IN WARSAW

LD161626 Moscow TASS in English 1540 GMT 16 May 80

[Text] Moscow, May 16, TASS--Follows the full text of the document [as received]:

In the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR and the Council of Ministers of the USSR.

The Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet and the USSR Council of Ministers, having discussed the results of the celebration meeting of the Political Consultative Committee of the Warsaw Treaty member-states that was held in Warsaw on May 14-15, 1980, wholly and completely approve of the activity of the delegation of the Soviet Union headed by General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, President of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet Leonid Brezhnev. A quarter of a century that has passed since the signing of the Warsaw Treaty has shown that the multilateral alliance of socialist states is a major factor of peace in Europe and in the whole world. It reliably protects the socialist gains of its participants and serves effectively the interests of peaceful cooperation.

The Warsaw Treaty member-countries advocated and advocate development and deepening of the process of relaxation of international tension, a radical improvement of the international political climate. This is weightily reaffirmed once again by the declaration adopted by the conference of the Political Consultative Committee in the capital of the Polish People's Republic.

This important political document gives a thorough analysis of the present-day European and international situation, shows the causes of its aggravation. Imperialist and hegemonistic forces seek to escalate the arms race, create conflict situations, which heightens the threat of war.

The latest meeting of the NATO leading bodies in May adopted again the decisions in this direction. The member-countries of the Warsaw Treaty oppose NATO's dangerous course with a broad programme of actions aimed at eliminating the threat of the resumption of the cold war, at consolidating trust and mutual understanding in international relations, at directing the events along healthy peaceful lines. They vigorously declare for unswerving implementation in full volume of all principles and provisions of the Final Act adopted by the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe. An important constructive role in European affairs can be played by the Madrid meeting in the autumn of 1980 and by the convocation and fruitful work of a conference on military detente and disarmament in Europe.

The decisions of the conference of the Political Consultative Committee must give a new strong impetus to the process of detente. The Soviet people expressed the hope that the initiatives of socialist states will meet understanding and support of the public opinion of the peoples and governments of Western countries.

The arms race spurred on by the United States and other NATO members compel the participants in the Warsaw Treaty to take the necessary measures for the strengthening of their defence potential. But all their measures in this sphere did not threaten and do not threaten the security of any state.

Disarmament was and remains the ideal of socialism.

The Warsaw Treaty member-countries come out for attainment of accords at all the current talks on disarmament and for the resumption of talks in those directions where they were interrupted. Of great importance in this respect would be the entry into force of the SALT II treaty whose ratification is being further delayed by the American side.

It is necessary and possible to hold talks on the limitation of medium-range nuclear missiles in Europe. The Soviet proposals on this score are well known: If NATO calls off its decision to manufacture and deploy new types of American medium-range nuclear missiles or, at least, suspends its implementation, talks on this major problem will begin.

The conference of the Political Consultative Committee has become a new demonstration of the profound devotion of the fraternal countries to the principles of internationalism, their invariable solidarity with all peoples fighting for stronger political and economic independence, for the right to determine their destinies themselves.

Resolutely condemning the rude interference by the forces of imperialism, and hegemonism in the internal affairs of other states, they firmly come out for a settlement of the existing conflicts by political means and indicate concrete ways that could help unravel knotty problems in international politics.

The Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR and the Council of Ministers of the USSR attach great importance to the proposal for holding shortly a summit meeting of states of all regions of the world. Such a meeting could concentrate on the key problems of international life and determine ways of removing seats of international tension and preventing war.

The Warsaw Treaty member-states come out for the continuation and deepening of the dialogue between countries belonging to different social systems and for broad interaction of all the peace-loving states. The conference of the Political Consultative Committee lays down correct guidelines for advance toward stronger peace in Europe and throughout the world.

The Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR and the Council of Ministers of the USSR are convinced that friendship and cohesion of the fraternal socialist countries, the further development of their cooperation with all peace-loving states and broad public forces will lead up to new successes for the policy of detente and make the eighties years of peace and peaceful construction.

PRAVDA 18 MAY EDITORIAL ON WARSAW PACT MEETING

LD191237 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 18 May 80 p 1

[Editorial: "Mighty Call for Peace"]

[Text] An intense battle is underway in the world--the battle for lasting peace. The Soviet Union and the other socialist community states are invariably in its vanguard. Inspired by lofty ideals, the socialist countries are multiplying their efforts to strengthen peace. Their unswerving determination to follow this proven course has found vivid new expression in the work of the Warsaw Pact states' Political Consultative Committee conference, which has just ended in fraternal Poland's capital. After considering the conference results, the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and USSR Council of Ministers entirely approved the activity of the Soviet delegation, headed by L. I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

The conference unanimously adopted documents of tremendous political significance--a declaration by the Warsaw Pact states that makes a profound and comprehensive assessment of the present international situation, and also a statement. [paragraph continues]

These documents put forward important new peace initiatives that will certainly attract the attention of everyone who really cherishes the cause of peace and the peoples' security. The Political Consultative Committee conference's decisions--the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and USSR Council of Ministers document points out--are designed to give a powerful new boost to the detente process. Soviet people express the hope that the socialist states' initiatives will meet with understanding and support from Western countries' public opinion, peoples and governments.

The socialist community countries, along with the world's other peace-loving forces, have achieved considerable successes in the consistent struggle for peace and the relaxation of tension. The biggest success is that it has been possible to break the tragic cycle of world war--a brief respite of peace--world war once again.

But there are no grounds for complacency. The international situation still remains complex and the threat to peace and detente has increased considerably. This situation is the direct consequence of the further activation of the policy of force, confrontation and hegemonism pursued by imperialist circles of the United States and other NATO countries. In an attempt to secure military superiority the North Atlantic bloc is expanding its military potential and stepping up the arms race. NATO's decision to produce new American medium-range nuclear missile weapons and deploy them in West Europe represents a particular danger and is threatening to sharply worsen the situation on the European Continent.

The socialist community countries' foreign policy is a profoundly popular policy that accords with mankind's vital interests. The Warsaw declaration is yet another reaffirmation of this. It is full of realism, a constructive approach and a desire for mutual understanding and cooperation. The document naturally pays special attention to the question that most perturbs the European peoples--how to consolidate the situation whereby Europe has lived under conditions of peace for 35 years now. The problem of military detente and disarmament on the European Continent occupies a central place among the problems of paramount importance. To secure headway in military detente in Europe is today an objective and most acute necessity.

Imperialist propaganda is attempting to distort the principled position of the USSR and the other fraternal countries on the question of elaborating an accord on medium-range nuclear missile weapons. The declaration strikes a blow against these fantasies. Only one thing is required for the start of such talks, the Warsaw Pact countries declare--that the NATO decision to produce new types of American nuclear missile weapons and deploy them in West Europe be rescinded, or at least that its implementation be suspended.

The declaration contains a specific program of measures whose implementation will make it possible to create an insurmountable barrier to the outbreak of another war. These measures include the reaching of an agreement to ensure that no state nor group of states in Europe increases the numerical strength of its armed forces in the region defined by the Helsinki document. There is also the strict observance of all provisions of the all-European Conference Final Act; good preparation for the Madrid meeting, expediting preparations for a conference on military detente and disarmament in Europe; and other specific moves.

How striking is the difference between this peace-loving constructive approach to international problems and the dangerous plans for spurring on the arms race discussed recently at the special NATO Council session in Brussels. There are two alliances, and two opposing courses: One aimed at strengthening peace, the other at undermining it. A clear warning against the policy of military adventures and a feverish arms race rang out from Warsaw.

The socialist countries are seeking purposefully and consistently to eliminate hotbeds of international tension and prevent wars. In their statement the Political Consultative Committee conference participants suggested holding in the near future a summit meeting of the leaders of the states of all regions of the world. Given goodwill and an objective approach to matters, any global or regional problem can be resolved. But each such problem must be resolved not through diktat or violence, but by political means.

The Warsaw conference is cogent new evidence that the community states are invariably following their principled foreign policy course.

"Our policy's strength," Comrade L. I. Brezhnev said in his speech in Warsaw, "lies in the fraternal unity of our countries, our parties and our peoples and in our loyalty to the great ideas of Marxism-Leninism and to the principles of socialist internationalism. Our policy's strength is that it accords with the vital interests of hundreds of millions of people throughout the world, of everyone who needs peace, not war...."

The Communist Party and the Soviet state will continue to do all in their power to ensure that the great cause of peace wins new successes.

COMMENTARY ON PACT CONSULTATIVE CONFERENCE

Pact Serves, NATO Undermines Peace

LD161449 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 May 80 p 4

[Report by special correspondents Ye. Grigoryev, V. Korionov and V. Fomin: "A Fraternal Alliance for the Sake of Peace"]

[Text] Warsaw, 14 May--The flags of the fraternal Warsaw Pact states flutter in the light spring breeze at the entrance to the Polish Council of Ministers building on Aleji Ujazdowskie. The Warsaw Pact Political Consultative Committee [PCC] has begun work here today.

The great hall of session, with the sun pouring through its high windows, has a ceremonial air. At the far end of the auditorium is a bust of Vladimir Ilich Lenin on a red pedestal. And this is symbolic. After all, it is Lenin's ideas of peace, friendship and cooperation between peoples that form the basis of the socialist community countries' policy. These ideas permeate all the Warsaw Pact's activity aimed at defending the interests of socialism, peace and the peoples' security.

1000 hours. Delegations from member countries are appearing in the auditorium. Among them are leaders of the fraternal parties and states. The delegation from the Soviet Union is headed by Comrade L. I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium. The conference is opened by Comrade E. Gierek, first secretary of the PZPR Central Committee.

The present PCC conference is taking place during a remarkable time. This is recalled by the Number XXV written large in Roman numerals on one wall of the auditorium. The Warsaw Pact's jubilee combines organically with the recent celebrations of the 35th anniversary of the victory over Hitlerite fascism.

It was 35 years ago that the freedom-loving peoples, among whom an outstanding role belonged to the Soviet people and their valiant army, secured a historic victory by joint efforts. It is 25 years since the peoples of our community's countries, striving to defend the gains of socialism and the cause of peace in Europe, pooled their efforts in a defensive alliance.

"...There is a kind of historical rightness," Comrade L. I. Brezhnev has noted, "in the fact that Warsaw, capital of People's Poland, long-suffering and heroic Warsaw, symbol of the fight to the death against mankind's most evil enemy, fascism, Warsaw, now a flourishing socialist jewel, gave its name to this combat alliance of the socialist countries."

Naturally, the Warsaw Pact PCC conference is attracting lively attention among the Polish capital's inhabitants--and not only them, of course. Representatives of the press, radio and television from dozens of countries have converged here to report on the conference's work. The Polish mass media are devoting numerous articles, commentaries, reportages and other materials to the PCC's work and the Warsaw Pact jubilee. All the Polish newspapers publish reports on the arrival of delegations from the allied fraternal countries and photographs of the warm, cordial meeting with the Soviet delegation headed by Comrade L. I. Brezhnev at Okecie Airport.

The Warsaw Pact is an important and active factor for stability which the whole world needs, TRYBUNA LUDU writes today. The member states' people are marking the Warsaw Pact 25th anniversary with a feeling of a duty well done in the cause of ensuring their interests and world peace.

The socialist countries, being consistent fighters for the cause of peace and the peoples' security, have considered it and still consider it their duty to maintain their defense capability at a suitable level and to strengthen the Warsaw Pact in every way, DZIENNIK LUDOWY notes.

The exceptional interest in the PCC's work is natural. It was not for aggression or for foisting its will on other countries and peoples that the Warsaw Pact was created. It was a retaliatory measure against NATO's aggressive preparations and attempts by imperialists to talk to the freedom-loving peoples from a "position of strength." At the same time a collective organ manifesting an active, creative approach to the problems of peace, putting forward constructive ideas and concrete proposals and seeking their implementation emerged for the first time in the shape of the military-political alliance of fraternal countries. For a quarter of a century now the Warsaw Pact has reliably served the fraternal countries' peaceful interests and helped to change the course of events in a direction favorable for the peoples. We have something to defend, a way of defending and people to defend our achievements, the newspaper ZOLNIERZ WOLNOSCO writes. Our forces augment the Warsaw Pact and strengthen the fraternal socialist community headed by that mighty world power--the Soviet Union. We are united by a common ideology, a common goal and common tasks.

Real successes can be perceived in the struggle for peace. In the last 10 years it has been possible to conclude a series of agreements intended to restrain the arms race. The process of relaxation of international tension has put down deep roots, particularly in Europe. Historic significance attached to the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, which adopted a long-term program for activity by European states--the Final Act.

However, all this has been achieved in an intensive struggle. The forces in the imperialist camp which hate the cause of peace are considerable and influential. Their thirst for aggression is unquenchable, their aggressive lust is insatiable. The present Warsaw Pact PCC conference has assembled precisely at a time when the enemies of peace are trying to stage a counterattack against detente, whipping up the arms race and creating dangerous conflict situations.

The North Atlantic alliance is the embodiment of these forces. The NATO bloc emerged as an instrument of aggression and suppression of the peoples' liberation struggle and, however much it may have been embellished by imperialist politicians, it remains the same today.

The aggressive bloc ringleaders are not satisfied with the 5 million-strong army at their disposal, of which more than 3 million soldiers, equipped with many thousands of tanks, aircraft and nuclear warheads, are entrenched on West European soil. New formations are being shipped to our continent from across the ocean. Particularly sinister in nature are the Pentagon's preparations for the deployment of new American medium-range missiles in that part of Europe. It is not enough for the militarists that NATO's military expenditure has long passed the $2-trillion mark.

NATO Secretary General Luns was recently summoned to Washington, where President Carter and the Pentagon leaders demanded a further increase in the NATO countries' military expenditure and an even greater buildup in arms and armed forces. This applies primarily to the Bundeswehr.

Moreover plans are being made to extend NATO's sphere of operations beyond the bounds of Western Europe. Striving to regain its positions in Iran, which were nullified by the people's anti-shah revolution, the White House is planning to send additional U.S. military contingents to the Persian Gulf region from Western Europe. The West European U.S. allies must "compensate" for the consequences of this redeployment.

During these days, when the Warsaw Pact PCC is discussing ways of further consolidating peace and detente, just over 2,000 km away in Brussels a special session of the NATO Council has met to examine new plans for whipping up the arms race. Two alliances, and two radically opposed courses: One serves the cause of peace, the other is aimed at undermining it.

The increased aggressiveness of imperialism's policy is facing the peoples more acutely than ever with the question of vigilance with respect to the dangerous machinations of those who initiate military adventures. For 35 years there has been a clear, peaceful sky over the long-suffering European Continent. But the task of ensuring peace is by no means receding into the background. Quite the contrary is true.

The peoples have learned a lesson of priority importance from the terrible events of the 20th century: The struggle to avert the danger of war must know no pause. No respite is permissible here. In our time the potential for maintaining peace by means of collective actions by peace-loving states and peoples has increased to an unprecedented extent. The socialist community represents, for the first time in history, an alliance of states which sees its supreme goal as maintaining and consolidating peace, which is capable of barring the way to the aggressor and knows how to achieve that goal. To march together and strengthen collaboration with each other--this is the path.

The entire experience of the world socialist community indicates that the strengthening unity and close cohesion of its members serve well both the national interests of each fraternal country and the vital interests of all socialist states and all peace-loving peoples. Socialist internationalism, the fraternal cohesion and unity of the socialist states, their indestructible solidarity and collaboration--such is the most reliable weapon of the communist parties and peoples of the socialist community, a weapon which ensures the potential to nullify the misanthropic designs of the enemies of peace. Constant coordination of the socialist countries' efforts in the fraternal cooperation between the armed forces of the Warsaw Pact countries for the sake of ensuring the inviolability of our states' borders--these are factors of the greatest significance.

The prolonged peace in Europe is to a great extent the result of the indefatigable activity of the communist and workers parties, governments and peoples of the Warsaw Pact countries. Every meeting of leaders of the fraternal parties and states is an important, significant event. It is natural that the peoples of all countries look to the capital of the People's Poland with respect and trust. They know that the voice of the highest organ of the alliance of socialist countries which can be heard from Warsaw is a powerful voice, warning the enemies of detente and peace and calling for a bright, peaceful future for mankind and for constructive dialogue and resolute action throughout the world.

Krasikov Comment

LD171920 Moscow TASS in English 1830 GMT 17 May 80

["Two Alliances--Two Policies"--TASS headling]

[Text] Moscow, May 17, TASS--TASS political news analyst Anatoliy Krasikov writes:

Two military-political alliances whose policies determine relations of states with different systems, and in the long run the destiny of the world, arrived at two diametrically opposite conclusions about prospects of the world development and the ways of achieving their aims. Such is the main conclusion that should be drawn from the analysis of the results of the meetings of the NATO military bodies held in the past week in Brussels and of the conference of the Political Consultative Committee of the Warsaw Treaty member states held in the past week in the Polish capital.

This conclusion was also confirmed in the document of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet and the USSR Council of Ministers that was published today in Moscow. It stresses that the member countries of the Warsaw Treaty oppose NATO's dangerous course with a broad program of actions aimed at eliminating the threat of the resumption of the cold war, at consolidating trust and mutual understanding in international relations and directing the course of events along healthy, peaceful lines.

The documents approved in Brussels show that the NATO circles continue doing everything to spiral still more the arms race, to maintain old conflict situations and to create new such situations, which will lead to the growth of military danger.

Representatives of member countries of the aggressive North Atlantic bloc confirmed the decision they adopted two years ago, that is long before the Afghan events, to increase every year by three per cent the real expenditures for preparation of war.

In this connection it should be recalled that a sharp increase of NATO military spending took place before. From 1970 to 1979, the total expenditures for military purposes by European NATO members alone rose from 24 to 85 billion dollars. The consolidation of this trend attests clearly to the wish of the West to undermine on purpose the efforts aimed at the lessening of international tensions and at normalization of relations among the states with different systems.

The same is shown by the course at a speedy deployment of new types of armaments and increase of the number of munitions in Western Europe, the course that was taken in Brussels.

The documents of the conference of the Political Consultative Committee of the Warsaw Treaty are permeated with quite a different spirit. At a time when millions of people are concerned over the destiny of detente and peace, a clear warning against the policy of military ventures and feverish arms race came from the Polish capital, the voice of sanity and peace sounded.

The participants in the conference in Warsaw suggested that a summit meeting of leaders of states of all areas of the world should be held shortly. The meeting should concentrate itself on the task of eliminating seats of international tension and of preventing war.

The Warsaw Treaty countries declare resolutely that all the principles and provisions of the Final Act adopted by the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe should be unswervingly observed. They are convinced that an important constructive role in European affairs can be played by the Madrid meeting in the autumn of 1980 and by the convocation and fruitful work of a conference on military detente and disarmament in Europe.

The declaration adopted by the Warsaw meeting of the Political Consultative Committee suggests a series of measures for practical solution of an entire range of disputable questions that cause tension in various areas of the world.

The first reaction of the West, above all of the United States of America, to peaceful initiatives of socialist countries does not give ground for particular optimism. Representative of the State Department Reston, commenting specifically on the proposal to hold shortly a summit meeting of leaders of states of all areas of the world, asserted that it cannot make a practical contribution to the reservation of world peace.

Such an attitude is not surprising, since it shows once again that Washington and those who follow in the wake of its policy took the road at confrontation and, promoting the Carter election campaign, have no wish to give up the dangerous playing with the destiny of mankind.

Fortunately, far from all in the West agree to submit blindly to the course at a preparation of collective suicide. This gives the ground for hope that a nuclear-missile catastrophe can be avoided and that the world will return to a constructive dialogue and cooperation on the basis of the aims and principles of the United Nations Organization, on the basis of the Helsinki accords, with taking into consideration lawful rights and interests of all countries.

'INTERNATIONAL SITUATION--QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS'

LD161940 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1015 GMT 16 May 80

["International Situation--Questions and Answers" program, with Valeriy Kosovan, all-union radio foreign policy commentator, Anatoliy Andreyevich Krasikov, TASS political observer, and Oleg Nikolayevich Anichkin, international affairs journalist]

[Excerpts] [Kosovan] Hello, dear comrades! First of all, I should like to thank all the listeners who sent in letters to our program. It is your letters, dear comrades, which have determined the subjects of today's program. This week has been exceptionally filled with important international events. Central among them was undoubtedly the meeting of the Political Consultative Committee of the Warsaw Treaty member states, which ended yesterday in the capital of the Polish People's Republic. Taking part in the meeting were the most prominent party and state leaders of the fraternal socialist countries: Leonid Ilich Brezhnev, Todor Zhivkov, Erich Honecker, Edward Gierek, Nicolae Ceausescu and Gustav Husak. The meeting discussed the most urgent and most acute problems of the international situation today and gave a reply to those questions which were diametrically opposite to the reply which came earlier in the day from Brussels, where the military bodies of the North Atlantic bloc were meeting. Most of the letters received in May from our listeners concern these very questions, which are disturbing millions of people throughout the whole world today. We asked Anatoliy Andreyevich Krasikov, TASS political observer, to comment on them.

NATO Session, Warsaw Pact

[Krasikov] Valeriy Ivanovich, it seems to me that you hit the nail on the head when you noted that in two European capitals approximately 2,000 km apart, truly diametrically opposite replies were given to the questions which disturb millions of people in Europe and throughout the whole world. Those two replies reflect two principally opposite courses in international politics. One of these is aimed at strengthening peace and security on our continent and beyond it, the other at undermining peace, at stirring up the arms race and whipping up international tension.

[Kosovan] Anatoliy Andreyevich, chronologically speaking, the meeting of the NATO supreme bodies began first, didn't it?

[Krasikov] Yes. This week a whole series of meetings of the leaders of the North Atlantic bloc began. On Monday, 12 May, within the framework of the so-called Eurogroup, there was a meeting of the defense ministers of the West European allies of the United States, excluding France and Greece, which, as we know, are not part of the NATO joint military organization. On Tuesday, 13 May. they were joined by the chiefs of the U.S. and Canadian defense departments. Sessions of the NATO Defense Planning Committee took place on 13-14 May, the defense ministers being joined on the second day by the foreign ministers of the NATO powers. The results of their work were formulated by them in a lengthy sort of communique containing 24 items. The most important of these items, in my view, is the last one, which says that the ministers promised to maintain and strengthen the bloc's military potential. They confirmed a decision made as far back as 2 years ago--in other words, we will note as an aside, long before the events in Afghanistan--to increase annually their countries' military expenditures in real terms by approximately 3 percent. In this connection we should also probably recall that even before there was a similarly rapid increase in NATO military expenditures. In the previous years the amount spent on preparation for war by the West European NATO member countries alone grew from $24 million to $85 million. So the earlier trend toward further spiralling the arms race, and consequently toward undermining efforts at reducing international tension, has now been confirmed.

At the same time, the decision was made in Brussels to step up the deployment of new types of weapons and to increase the amount of munitions and the number of transport aircraft in West Europe. As the U.S. New York TIMES notes, this decision was made with one completely specific and clear end in view. I quote further: To enable the United States to use in the Persian Gulf the troops and combat equipment which are at present on U.S. territory, but which are designed for use in Europe. I shall not dwell in detail on this question since I know you have given letters concerning U.S.-Iranian relations to my friend Oleg Nikolayevich Anichkin. The only thing I shall note, perhaps, is that Washington did not fail to make use of the failure of its plans regarding Iran and Afghanistan in order to put pressure, for the Nth time, on West Europe and, in an atmosphere of intense war hysteria, to make Europeans in the west of the continent behave in a way that Washington and President Carter personally would like, and in the way that they demand.

While we are on the subject of war hysteria, I should like to describe an episode, a funny one in my view, that happened at a meeting of NATO chiefs of staff on Monday. The meeting was in full swing when suddenly the electronic warning system gave the alarm signal. The Norwegian General Zeiner Gundersen, who was chairing the meeting, ordered the simultaneous interpreters to stop working. Don't use the microphones, he told his colleagues. Someone may be listening to us. The meeting resumed only after a long halt.

Of course even in the NATO countries not yet everyone has fallen into hysteria. The Belgian Government, for example, had enough sense to remove from office General Close, chairman of the National Defense Commission, who used to announce practically every day that the Russians were posed to move westward and be on the Rhine in 48 hours. Recently, this general, who is probably envious of the glory of the former U.S. Defence Secretary Forrestal who, as we remember, threw himself out of the window shouting that Russian tanks were in New York, was retired from the army. This, as distinct from the case of Forrestal, who was kept in office till the end, happened just recently. And there is another, similarly hopeful sign indicating that NATO officials have not completely lost commonsense. During, or rather immediately after the Brussels session, Turkish Foreign Minister Erkmen said that if they wanted, the other NATO countries could increase their expenditure by 3 percent annually, as the Americans have begun to demand, but Turkey, he said, saw no need for this.

[Kosovan] Anatoliy Andreyevich, the first item of the final communique which was published at the end of the NATO Defense Planning Committee session in Brussels stresses the special contribution made by West Germany to the West's military effort. Could you explain how that contribution is made in practice?

[Krasikov] We can now give a quite precise and specific reply to that question. First of all, I should like to recall that this May is a month of many memorable dates. A week ago, peoples were celebrating the 35th anniversary of victory over fascist Germany in the Second World War. Three days before that, on 6 May, it was a quarter of a century since the day that West Germany joined the aggressive North Atlantic bloc. I shall recall yet again that the Soviet Union and other socialist countries warned the West beforehand that West Germany's joining the military coalition, whose spearhead is aimed against us, would lead to Europe being split into opposing groups since it would inevitably evoke like measures by our side. And sure enough, on 14 May of the same year in other words, exactly 12 days after the FRG joined NATO the Warsaw Treaty Organization was created.

But let us return to West Germany and its contribution to the military effort of the North Atlantic bloc. Thirty-five years after the capitulation of Hitler's Reich, the West German Army is the most powerful of all those in capitalist Europe. The only aspect in which it is still inferior to the armed forces of Britain and France, for example, is the lack of its own nuclear weapons. By the way, there are more than enough such weapons on FRG territory: I have in mind the enormous U.S. nuclear potential. At present, according to official figures, in the central European theatre, West Germany accounts for one-half of all NATO's land forces, 30 percent of its air force, 70 percent of its naval forces and 100 percent of its marine air force operating in the Baltic area. The FRG's military spending, which during the first 15 years of its membership in NATO grew from zero to the gigantic sum of DM20 billion, continued to grow in the next decade at the same rapid rate and last year reached DM37 billion. Since year before last, the FRG's land forces comprise 36 brigades, including 16 motorized, 17 tank and 3 air assault landing brigades. The very enumeration of these types of brigades indicates that the construction of the country's armed forces is based, not on defensive, but offensive concepts, although the NATO people constantly assert the contrary. Last year, the Bundeswehr began to receive new Leopard II tanks. In all, the West German Army is to be equipped with 4,887 tanks of this type with long-range cannons. As far as the numbers of the FRG Armed Forces personnel are concerned, in peacetime these total 495,000 soldiers and officers.

[Kosovan] And to all this, Anatoliy Andreyevich, there must be added the U.S. troops stationed on West German territory.

[Krasikov] Of course. On FRG territory there now are four fully-equipped U.S. divisions, plus four special-purpose brigades. And preparations are being made for the possible doubling of the numbers of these troops. Finally, one should probably bear in mind that taking part in the arms race are not only the United States and the FRG, but also the other NATO powers, and that the decision to produce and deploy in West Europe the new U.S. nuclear missiles, which was made at the December session of NATO, at the end of last year, has not been revoked by any of them.

[Kosovan] Anatoliy Andreyevich, we have devoted a lot of attention to NATO's militarist plans, including those which were confirmed or affirmed at the current session in Brussels. But what can one say about the decisions of the Political Consultative Committee of the Warsaw Treaty states?

[Krasikov] The documents of the Warsaw conference, published by the central papers this very day, are being attentively studied throughout the world, and this is understandable, since they are exceptionally important, and, I would say, instructive documents. They prove convincingly that today, as always in the past, the Soviet Union and the other fraternal socialist countries are insistently striving for the cessation of the arms race, the normalization of the international situation and the organizing of widely-based cooperation between countries with different systems. Speaking in Warsaw yesterday, Leonid Ilich Brezhnev had every justification for saying that the Warsaw Treaty Organization has consistently been the source of major peace initiatives. Their implementation would enable a firm foundation to be laid for peaceful life in present-day Europe and mark out practical ways to further strengthen the security of the peoples of our continent; and in the present complex situation, when millions of people feel alarmed about the fate of detente and peace, a clear warning was sounded from the Polish capital against the policy of military adventures and the feverish arms race. The voice of reason and peace was heard.

The participants of the Warsaw conference proposed that, in the near future, a summit conference should be held of the leaders of the states of all parts of the world. The attention of this conference should be centered on the tasks concerning both the European peoples, and all mankind; the tasks of eliminating hotbeds of international tension, and preventing war.

[Kosovan] Anatoliy Andreyevich, the Warsaw Treaty countries also introduced other important proposals.

[Krasikov] Yes, they urged, in particular, that the numbers of armed force should not be increased in the region covered by the Helsinki Final Act, that preparations for a conference on military detente and disarmament in Europe should be stepped up, that efforts should be made toward the ratification of the SALT II treaty and the rapid conclusion of the talks on a total and universal ban on nuclear weapons test, a ban on radiological weapons, a ban on chemical weapons and the destruction of stockpiles of them, renunciation of the use of nuclear weapons against non-nuclear states with no nuclear weapons on their territory, and on not basing nuclear weapons on the territories of states where none are based now. They also proposed the immediate commencement of negotiations on such matters as concluding a world treaty on renunciation of the use of force, on banning the production of nuclear weapons and the gradual reduction of stockpiles of them until they are liquidated altogether; on banning the creation of new forms and systems of weapons of mass destruction; and on reducing military budgets, primarily those of the major powers.

They propose commencing consideration, possibly within a UN framework, of the question of limiting and lowering the level of military presence and military activities in the Atlantic, Indian and Pacific oceans, in the Mediterranean, in the Persian Gulf and in other regions.

The declaration by the Warsaw Pact states stresses that they attach particular significance to the major question of working out an understanding on medium-range nuclear missiles. Negotiations on this are possible; but in order to begin them, it is required that NATO's decision to produce and deploy in West Europe new forms of American nuclear missiles should be canceled, or at least the implementation of it should be halted. The participants of the Warsaw conference called the further dragging on of the Vienna negotiations on the reduction of armed forces and armaments in central Europe impermissible.

In the section of the declaration devoted to the situation in Asia, the need for a political settlement of the situation which has arisen concern Afghanistan was stressed. Such a settlement should reliable guarantee the full cessation, prevent the resumption, of any forms of outside interference and acts directed against the government and people of Afghanistan. At the same time, when interference has stopped completely, a start will be made on the withdrawal [budet pristupleno k vyvodu] of Soviet troops from Afghanistan, in accordance with the statements made by our country.

The Warsaw Treaty countries stressed their support for the inalienable right of the people of Iran independently, without any interference from outside, to decide their own fate and determine their own path of development. They resolutely condemned the military diversionary operation undertaken recently on Iranian territory by the United States.

All these questions, or at least the more important of them, were undoubtedly touched on at the meeting in Vienna today between our foreign minister, Andrey Andreyevich Gromyko, and the new U.S. secretary of state, Muskie. This meeting, as we know, took place in connection with, on the occasion of another noteworthy date, the 25th anniversary of the signing of the State Treaty with Austria.

Thus, with full justification, with full confidence we can sum up once again by saying that the socialist countries again and again set against NATO's militarist course a broad and what is more, a practical program of struggle for the pease and security of all peoples; and there is no doubt that this program will meet the support and approval of mankind.

Iranian Situation

[Kosovan] Judging from your letters, esteemed comrades, the recent aggressive action by the United States against Iran with the aim of releasing the hostages continues to attract your attention. The subject is raised in particular by Comrade (Vasilyev) of Moscow, (Vorobyev) of Krasnodar, (Polina Aleksandrovna Nikolenko) and Zemtsy in Kalininskaya Oblast and others. Indeed, the foreign press and various politicians are expressing concern in connection with the possibility of another extremely dangerous turn in American policy, threatening the peace and security of the peoples, including that of the U.S. allies. We have in the studio a regular participant in the "International Situation--Questions and Answers," international affairs journalist Oleg Nikolayevich Anichkin. I have asked him to assess the American military venture against Iran and to describe the consequences. Please begin, Oleg Nikolayevich.

[Anichkin] Indeed, much has been said and written on this subject recently, not only in the United States but in other countries too, particularly in the capitals of the countries allied to the United States. And this is understandable. This is probably the first time since the Vietnam war that Washington has planned and tried to implement such a largscale operation, which, whatever the White House and American propaganda call it, was aggression against Iran, with all the consequences ensuing from this. They will be very far-reaching for the United States, both as concerns foreign policy and from the point of view of the development of domestic political events. One must bear in mind the circumstance that the election campaign is in full swing in the United States. The Carter administration and Carter himself will suffer a severe impact. A negative reaction is already clearly discernible and to all appearances it will grow worse in the future.

[Kosovan] But Oleg Nikolayevich, on the surface thus far, it looks as though practically all America is expressing support for the President, understanding and sympathy.

[Anichkin] This is not so at all. I shall try to explain what is really happening from my point of view, which is enhanced by the fact that I have only just returned from the United States and have seen many events with my own eyes.

It is not at all a matter of a rise in the popularity and authority of the President. Nor is it a matter of acknowledgement of his statesmanlike wisdom or resolution, firmness, or the correctness of the decisions taken at a moment when the country is going through a crisis situation, when the honor and dignity of the American nation are in question. What happened in the United States after the shameful failure of the military diversion in Iran, particularly in the first days, was what the Americans usually do at moments of crisis. They have no symbol of order and power other than the President when anarchy and danger rule. Here it would seem appropriate to cite a remark by John Kennedy, which he made shortly after the failure of the American operation against Cuba at the Bay of Pigs [Zaliv Sviney]. He said at that time: The worse I behave, the more popular I become. More or less the same thing is happening now. However...

[Kosovan interrupts] Oleg Nikolayevich, surely the President cannot reckon on success in obtaining the Democratic Party nomination and on victory against his Republican rival by the use of such dubious fame?

[Anichkin] Of course not. Hardly anything now remains of the euphoria which was to be observed in the first days after the Americans had ungloriously retreated from Iranian soil, leaving eight of the raiders' corpses behind. The dust has begun to settle, as one might say, and the Americans have begun asking questions, to which answers are being more and more insistently demanded. What really happened? Was not America taking too great a risk? Would it have been possible to save the hostages in such a way, or was there another way which would not have led the United States into these dangerous and unpredictable events? Or perhaps it was just a desperate venture to serve the personal political interests of the President?

[Kosovan] Oleg Nikolayevich, excuse me, but are you putting forward these hypotheses on the basis of your personal observations, or on the basis of material in the American press?

U.S. Political Scene

[Anichkin] Both. But it seems to me that in our program in order not to be subjective, it would be better to quote the statements of American observers. For instance, such an authoritative political observer as David Broder, in an article published in the Washington POST, declares frankly that President Carter is now on the threshold of, I quote, a growing crisis of confidence, and expresses fears that the President will have some very difficult questions to answer in connection with the effectiveness of his presidency. Another, no less well-known political observer, Joseph Kraft, calls directly into question the President's capacity to conduct affairs of state at responsible moments, at a time when the country is undergoing a crisis. And further, I come to a comment by the weekly TIME. This journal quotes a statement by a Democratic senator who, among other senators, had a briefing at the State Department concerning what had happened. He said: Concern is aroused by the fact that political considerations were clearly apparent in President Carter's decision to conduct the operation in Iran. The whole story has too many political undertones, said the senator, adding, I quote, hardly any politician would take this risky step if he were not trying to be elected President.

[Kosovan] Oleg Nikolayevich, the resignation of Secretary of State Cyrus Vance would appear to be a most eloquent indication of the worsening of disagreements and contradictions, not only within the administration itself, but also

[Anichkin interrupts] I was just going to say something about that. The resignation of the secretary of state does indeed reflect the mood of the most varied circles of American society, those who are close to the levers of power, those who are called liberals and those who have no particular political convictions. But I should like once again to draw attention to the main reasons which induced him to take such a drastic step. Firstly, he disagreed in principle with the use of force to solve the hostage problem, considering that possibilities still remained for using negotiations with the aim of achieving the liberation of these people. Indeed, this action cannot be called a humane one, a rescue operation. It was an extremely risky operation, which would, I stress again, only be called an act of aggression. It did not in the least promise any guaranteed possibility of bringing the 53 American hostages out of Iran without casualties. And there would undoubtedly have been casualties, too, among the raiders who were to carry out the operation in Tehran. As you know, the Americans did not fire a single shot, yet they lost six men killed. And altogether, the whole concept of this diversionary act would have led to great losses among the Iranians.

It is now gradually becoming known that there were options, including attacks on the residential quarters of the city. The American transport aircraft and helicopters carried large-calibre machineguns and cannons. How can one call this a humane mission, an operation to rescue the hostages? It was an act of aggression, an act of vengeance. In fact, what was planned was an attempt to strike a mighty blow at Iran and its regime.

[Kosovan] Oleg Nikolayevich, what were the other reasons for Vance's resignation?

[Anichkin] The second reason was that the American action against Iran led to the undermining of U.S. authority from the point of view of its reliability as a senior partner and ally, and not only because Washington did not consider it necessary to consult its allies on the question of using force against Iran. The United States, to put it mildly, led them astray. When the United States, by Vance's efforts, was persuading the allies to take part in sanctions against Iran, it was assuring them in every way that military force would not be used. In reply to insistent questions, such assurances were given by the secretary of state. In the end, the U.S. allies and partners were deceived. And for them, the application of sanctions against Iran is no easy matter. Most of them, the West European countries and Japan, need Iranian oil. It cannot be ruled out that they may have to pay dearly for this step. And now, when the United States is seeking from its allies an intensification of sanctions, they are unwilling to agree to this. As the new secretary of state, Muskie, admitted, the U.S. allies, I quote, are far from enthusiastic in giving their support in these matters.

[Kosovan] Oleg Nikolayevich, can it be supposed that the White House has drawn the appropriate conclusions from the failure of the venture in Iran and the increase in criticism of the administration's policy?

[Anichkin] It seems to me that there are insufficient grounds for such a supposition. In any case, information coming in from the United States indicates that those people in the President's entourage, more precisely, among his assistants who gambled on force before, intend to try to stage another raid on Iran. This conclusion is confirmed by reports that it has been stated more than once in statements from the White House that the United States is ready to use any means, including military ones, as they put it, to punish Iran. Secondly, a buildup of U.S. military might is proceeding at a rapid rate in the Persian Gulf and Arabian Peninsula area. Washington is setting up support points for making strikes at a wide variety of regions in the Near and Middle East. Egyptian territory, for instance, is to be used for this purpose. It will be used, it was reported the other day, as the main base for implementation of so-called lightning military operations in that region. In other words, Washington is gambling on the use of force or the threat of using it to achieve its political and strategic aims. This is precisely the way things are, however much Washington asserts the opposite, however much they talk of American vital interests in this region, of the desire to restore peace to turbulent parts of the world.

[Kosovan] Oleg Nikolayevich, one last question. What are the likely consequences for the election campaign?

[Anichkin] Very, very serious. The U.S. election situation is currently severely distorted. It has become quite paradoxical and on presidential election day at the beginning of November the American people will apparently have to choose between two unpopular politicians. But it seems to me that this theme deserves a separate talk, and maybe we can do that next time.

[Kosovan] Thank you, Oleg Nikolayevich.

PRAVDA REVIEW ON NATO, WARSAW PACT, AUSTRIA STATE TREATY

LD191243 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 18 May 80 p 4

[Nikolay Prozhogin untitled international review]

[Text] The name of Warsaw--in the recent past a long-suffering and heroic city which became one of the symbols of the fight against fascism and has now risen from the ruins to become the capital of socialist Poland--is once again featured constantly in the newspapers of the entire world. This week the conference of the Political Consultative Committee of the states of the Warsaw Pact, to which Warsaw gave its name 25 years ago, was held there.

Represented at summit level, the Warsaw Pact states noted with full justification that for 25 years their fraternal alliance and the countries belonging to it, collaborating and cooperating with other states and with all peace-loving forces, have been confidently and effectively resolving vitally important tasks--the tasks of preventing the unleashing of war in Europe and of promoting by every means the strengthening of peace, the easing of international tension, and the development of peaceful cooperation among states.

At the same time they rated highly the results achieved in strengthening the fraternal friendship and cohesion of the socialist community countries, in developing broad, multifaceted cooperation based on the principles of independence and national sovereignty, on noninterference in internal affairs, comradely mutual assistance and internationalist solidarity.

The CPSU Central Committee Politburo, USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and USSR Council of Ministers, wholly and completely approving the activity of the Soviet Union's delegation headed by Comrade L.I. Brezhnev at the conference in Warsaw, noted, in a detailed assessment of the decisions taken at it that they are designed to lend powerful new impetus to the detente process.

Voice of Reason and Peace

In the struggle for peace, security and detente, the Warsaw Pact states this time, as always, displayed consistency and principledness, a constructive approach and goodwill. combining boldness in advancing initiatives and realism in approaching negotiations in which they are prepared to take into account other peoples' rights and interests.

There can be no doubt that the documents of the jubilee conference and the declaration and statement adopted at it are being studied now not only in government offices. They are being attentively read by simple people in Europe and other continents. This is understandable. Comrade L.I. Brezhnev said: "In the present complex situation when millions of people are anxious as to the destiny of detente and peace, a clear warning issues from Warsaw against the policy of military adventures and the frenzied arms race, a voice of reason and peace is heard asserting the desire for cooperation in resolving acute present-day problems."

It is expedient here to go back a little way--to the days preceding the start of the conference of the Warsaw Pact Political Consultative Committee conference. During those days the newspapers of many Western countries voiced their conjectures as to the nature of the discussion of international problems during the forthcoming work in Warsaw. To give them their due, as a whole they correctly determined the main avenues of the documents to come. Indicative on this plane is the article by the West German newspaper WESTFAELISCHE RUNDSCHAU which wrote: "It is expected that the Warsaw conference will confirm the line toward the continuation of a policy of detente...."

Indeed, there is nothing unusual in the accuracy of this prediction. The world is accustomed to and knows the fact that, in contrast to the zigzags which have recently marked the United States' international policy, the foreign policy course of the Soviet Union and its allies is as principled and steady as it is firm and unswerving. It is a course toward the relaxation of tension and the strengthening of international peace and the peoples' security.

The only point on which WESTFAELISCHE RUNDSCHAU, like several other Western newspapers has proved wrong, is in its uncertainty as to "whether any new initiatives will be taken in the Polish capital on this occasion."

Doubts on this score proved unnecessary. The delegations from all the Warsaw Pact states confirmed the proposals they had made earlier in talks on a wide range of questions and came out with an important new initiative. Perhaps it will seem unusual to some people. Well, not everyone can accept something new at first glance. A separately compiled statement supported by the heads of the delegations proposes that in the immediate future, with no delay, a meeting of leaders of states of all parts of the world be held at summit level. The present unsettled situation and the fears which it engenders, taking into account the opportunities for their elimination which are far from having being utilized, just like the experience of history from the time of the anti-Hitler coalition to the present day, (let us recall, in particular, the all-European conference) confirm that it is precisely such a meeting which can open up the most reliable path toward mutual understanding and lasting peace.

It is no accident that now that the results of the Political Consultative Committee in Warsaw are the central topic of the world press the proposal contained in the statement regarding a summit meeting of leaders of states of all parts of the world is evoking such numerous and extensive comments. Not everyone liked it. But even those statesmen who will try to brush it aside cannot get away from the fact that they will have to tell their peoples why they are declining the opportunity offered to take part in the solution of tasks like the elimination of hotbeds of international tension and the prevention of war.

In advancing this bold and historic proposal, the leaders of the Warsaw Pact states realize that the forces of reaction and war will try to erect many obstacles on the path toward its implementation. They wrote in their declaration: "...in the world today every step forward in strengthening international security and developing the detente process is taken in a resolute struggle by the peoples and all progressive and democratic forces against the imperialist policy of force and diktat, of confrontation and the unleashing of conflicts, of the arms race and of outside interference in states' internal affairs."

Unfortunately, you do not have to go far to find examples of this sort.

Fueling Tension

This week, too, sessions of the North Atlantic bloc's military organs were held in Brussels, the Belgian capital. The greatest importance was attached to the sessions of the Defense Planning Committee. As follows from the very name of this committee, it is made up of military ministers. This time, however, in order to lend greater political weight to the conference, the heads of the foreign policy departments of the appropriate countries joined them on the last day of its work--which gave grounds for calling the Brussels meeting a special session of the NATO Council.

It should be pointed out that representatives from France and Greece were not present in Brussels. These are states which are NATO members but which at different times and on different grounds--albeit, in the final analysis, for the selfsame reason of displeasure at U.S. policies--have left its military organization or, as it is called in official documents, "the alliance's integrated military structure." The absence of representatives of those states still further underlined the purely military and essentially militarist, aggressive nature of the problems being considered at the sessions.

Even before the start of the Brussels meeting the Western press had reported that in the course of it the United States would demand that the European NATO members demonstrate their "unity and cohesion" and unconditionally support the main directions of current White House policy of stepping up and increasing the pace of the arms race and of military preparations in West Europe, which Pentagon and NATO documents sinsisterly call the "European theater of military operations...." On the other hand, it is a policy of dragging the allies into Washington's adventurist actions in the Near and Middle East, above all in the Persian Gulf region. But these two directions of American policy are increasingly running together.

U.S. Defense Secretary H. Brown revealed this quite openly during his visit to Rome, where he arrived immediately before his trip to Brussels. Incidentally this very visit to Italy--a country on NATO's southern flank, to which the Pentagon now attaches special significance--is highly symptomatic, as is the choice of Ankara as the venue for the upcoming regular session of the North Atlantic bloc's council. For Italy and Turkey--not counting Greece, which, as already stated, has withdrawn from NATO's military organization--among the bloc's members are situated closest both to the zone of the Arab-Israeli conflict and to Iran, where Washington is trying to impose a "Pax Americana" on the peoples.

Patting Italy on the back as "one of our closest allies," Brown declared in an interview with the rightwing Italian newspaper IL TEMPO: "Southwest Asia will account for a very considerable part of the planned increase in American defense spending over the next 5 years. Therefore the United States' European allies and Japan should assume a greater part of the NATO defense effort than before. THEY WILL HAVE TO DO THIS IN REGIONS ADJACENT TO THEM" (my emphasis--N.P.). [Capitalized passage published in boldface] Adding that "the best way to achieve this is for the allies to fulfill what has already been planned, but sooner," he very significantly promised: "In Brussels we will discuss the details of this new distribution of responsibilities."

Brown's hints were interpreted by local political observers as a policy of extending the sphere of the military activities of NATO (and also Japan) beyond the limits stipulated in the text of the North Atlantic pact and as a U.S. intention to drag its allies into new military adventures being planned against Iran. Brown's subsequent explanations as to what he meant by speaking about the role allocated to Italy do not alter the crux of the matter.

"Brown denied reports that he had asked or intended to ask the Italian Government to send warships to the Persian Gulf," L'UNITA writes, "although he gave this to be understood in an interview published in a Rome newspaper.... But the crux of the problem lies not in whether or not it is worthwhile attaching several Italian ships to the mighty American nuclear fleet based in the Indian Ocean, but in the demand of the United States, which wants to have at its disposal on our peninsula a dependable system of military bases, so that they could be used during offensive operations against countries in the Near East and Southwest Asia."

But this touches on the interests of far more than Italy alone, the French newspaper LE FIGARO asserts. "In effect the United States wants the Atlantic alliance to fall in with another expedient, specifically that the forward edge of Europe's (read: Western Europe's--N.P.) defense henceforth be located in the Persian Gulf."

In view of the fact that the United State's West European allies are resisting the pressures to get them to join the economic sanctions against Iran, even Washington must realize that it will be difficult to get them to directly participate in punitive operations. Therefore, judging from Western press reports, the U.S. representatives in Brussels have concentrated their efforts on getting the West European countries used to the idea of the need to expand NATO's sphere of influence. For this purpose the hackneyed "Soviet military threat" thesis was repeated over and over again there, reinforced with references to the events in Afghanistan. It is, to say the least, strange that the representatives of the countries which signed the NATO Defense Planning Committee's concluding communique should cite these particular events after promising to expedite a new twist in the arms race outlined by them as long ago as May, 1978, that is, long before the events in Afghanistan.

The Example of Austria

The Warsaw Pact member states' declaration mentions the Austrian State Treaty, which is 25 years old this week. The path from this document to the FRG's bilateral treaties with the USSR, Poland, Czechoslovakia and the GDR, and to the four-power agreement on West Berlin was, the declaration states, a long and hard one.

This path, of which the normalization of relations between Bulgaria, Hungary and Romania with the FRG was also a continuation, was indeed long and hard, but it was traversed, despite the obstacles erected by the forces of imperialism and revanchism. A number of dangerous sources of tension were thus eliminated and a good basis was created for mutual trust between states in Europe and for their joint responsibility for the future of European peace and security.

Against t[illegible] background of the successes in the cause of consolidating peace achieved thanks to the eff[illegible]s of the socialist and many other countries the signing of the Austrian State Treaty now [illegible]eems a doubly-important event. But it has also not been forgotten because it was an important milestone not only in the history of the Austrian state, but also in the process which was later to be termed the relaxation of international tension.

The greetings telegrams sent by L.I. Brezhnev and A.N. Kosygin to Austrian President R. Kirchschlaeger and Chancellor B. Kreisky on the significant date note with satisfaction the useful contribution which Austria is making to the cause of ensuring the relaxation of tension and the consolidation of peace on the European Continent.

Nor has mankind forgotten that it was in the capital of neutral Austria that the SALT II treaty was signed last year. The present celebrations in Vienna have presented the international public with an opportunity of expressing the hope that the debate of this treaty in the U.S. Senate will be unblocked and that it will be able to come into force, thereby containing the arms race in its most dangerous direction.

Many important questions on which mankind's peaceful future and progress depend, remain unresolved. This is particularly true of the sphere of halting the arms race, which continues to be escalated and increasingly threatens the process of relaxing tension and the peoples' peace and security. Unfortunately, these problems have recently become still more acute. But the building of a lasting peace has begun and it must continue.

The Warsaw Pact member states, together with all other peace-loving countries and social forces, have solemnly reaffirmed their unswerving resolve to work unflaggingly in this direction.

COMMENT ON ISLAMIC CONFERENCE SUMMIT IN ISLAMABAD

Pakistan Attempts Distraction

LD182004 Moscow TASS in English 1910 GMT 18 May 80

[Text] Islamabad, May 18, TASS--The scheduled session of the Islamic Conference Organization, which opened here yesterday, is continuing its work.

The conference delegates have condemned the aggressive action of the USA against Iran launched under the pretext of "freeing the American hostages". They have declared against the build-up of U.S. military presence in the Persian Gulf area.

In the course of the debate on the question of restoration of the legitimate rights of the Arab people of Palestine, the conference delegates have condemned Israel's annexation of the eastern part of Jerusalem and the decision to make this city the capital of Israel. They have urged the convocation of a meeting of the U.N. Security Council to discuss Tel Aviv's unilateral action. The session has also strongly condemned the armed provocations by the Israeli military in the south of Lebanon.

The Pakistani side taking advantage that it chairs the current session of the Islamic Conference Organization succeeded in forcing a debate on the so-called "Afghan Problem."

In this connection, local observers point out, that reactionary circles are trying to use the ICO session in order to distract attention fron the main issues, such as the U.S. armed interference in Iran, which constitutes a threat to the Islamic states, in the first place to the State of Iran.

It is noteworthy that the present Pakistani regime, which came to power as a result of liquidation of democratic freedoms in that country and is in fact a military dictatorship, is now allowing to use its territory for engineering provocations and armed interference in the affairs of the independent sovereign state of Afghanistan. It is acting on these issues jointly with the United States and China as well as with a number of other reactionary regimes. All of them have a stake in provoking tensions and lack of stability in the region.

Beirut, May 18, TASS commenting on the ICO session, the Beirut newspaper AL-NIDA' points out today, that the main attention of the participants in the session must be devoted to the "large-scale American offensive against the Moslem peoples of the Middle East and south west Asia." In implementing his aggressive global strategy, AL-NIDA' writes, President Carter hopes for the complicity in it of reactionary Moslem circles, which are under his thumb. Taking advantage of their support, Carter has, in particular, launched an armed adventure in Iran, Washington is supplying arms for the destruction of towns and villages in Lebanon's south.

AL-NIDA' calls upon the participants in the current session of the Islamic Conference Organization "to realise the source of real danger to the Moslem peoples" and "direct their main blow against the United States and its sinister plans vis-a-vis the Moslem countries."

U.S. 'Influencing' Conference States

LD192324 Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1530 GMT 19 May 80

[From the "Window on the Arab World" program]

[Text] The participants in the Islamic Conference in Islamabad have condemned Israel for its decision to officially annex the Arab part of Jerusalem. The United Nations Security Council has called for measures to stop the Israeli policy of annexation. We recall that the Islamic Conference was held especially to defend the Islamic sanctuaries in Jerusalem after the Israeli occupiers burned the Al-Aqsa Mosque.

The founders of the Islamic Conference consider its chief aim to be struggle against the aggressive neocolonialist policy of imperialism and Zionism and defense of national rights and vital interests of the Islamic countries. The U.S. imperialists and Israeli Zionists, as their actions and behavior show, today direct their main efforts against those Islamic countries which gallantly struggle in the cause of their national independence and against any form of imperialist subservience and exploitation. The most flagrant example of this is the aggressive activity of the United States against the Arabs and reinforcement of American military might [as heard] in the occupied Arab territories, and the policy of genocide adopted by Zionism toward the Palestinian Arab people.

It must be said that the Islamic Conference memberstates constitute a huge power bloc capable of forcing any foe to take into consideration their national interests. Yet the Islamic Conference is not congenial in its structure. For there are countries which adopt a clear anti-imperialist liberated policy and others whose ruling circles follow the imperialist wagon. The United States exploits the hostility of those circles toward the Soviet Union, and tries by all means to divert the Islamic Conference from the correct path and into the morass of antagonizing the Soviets. That is why the reactionary circles at the Islamabad Conference are trying to equate the neocolonialist, aggressive policy of the American imperialists to the Soviet Union's firm, noble policy of supporting and backing the struggling peoples. Such endeavors are being answered by some members of the Islamic Conference especially those countries which know by experience, the extent of importance of Soviet backing and aid to their national struggle.

DRA Suspension Viewed

LD192140 Moscow TASS in English 1955 GMT 19 May 80

["Who Stands To Gain"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, May 19, TASS--TASS political news analyst Sergey Kulik writes:

A regular session of the Islamic Conference Organization is taking place in Islamabad. The Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan has not been invited to the meeting in the Pakistani capital. The previous session of the Islamic Conference Organization decided, under the pressure from Saudi Arabia, Pakistan and some other countries acting as agents for the pursuit of Washington's policy, decided to suspend the membership of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan in the Islamic Conference Organization.

Meanwhile, it is clear from Western news agencies reports that at the conference--not only in its lobbies but also at its conference hall--there are some "Afghans" passing themselves off as "champions of the interests of the Afghan people".

Who are these individuals? According to the same Western sources, these are heads of the Afghan counterrevolutionary gangs which have settled in the territories of some of the states bordering on the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan. They do not represent no one and live exclusively off the hand-outs from the United States, China and other countries interfering in Afghanistan's internal affairs.

The appearance at the session of such people is revealing as to the way in which the people in Islamabad, who try to provide patronage to the enemies of the people's Afghanistan, wish to direct the discussions on the so-called "Afghan issues".

Discussion of the issue without the participation of the lawful representatives of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan can only be described as yet another attempt at open interference in the internal affairs of a sovereign state. As we see, in response to the peaceful initiatives of the Afghan Government opening the path to good neighbourliness and normalization of relations in the region, the United States, China, Pakistan and some other countries are attempting to still further complicate the situation there.

'SUCCESS' OF NEW BALTIC COMMISSION'S FIRST SESSION NOTED

LD151111 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 9 May Morning Edition p 4

[Excerpts] Helsinki, 8 May TASS--The first session of the Commission for the Protection of the Baltic Marine Environment finished work here today. Taking part were representatives of all seven Baltic region countries--the Soviet Union, the GDR, Poland, Denmark, the FRG, Sweden and Finland.

The session participants adopted a concluding document noting the positive results of the 6-year preparatory work and approving the work of the provisional commission for the protection of the Baltic marine environment. The session approved the election of Finland as venue for the permanent headquarters of the commission's secretariat.

Participants who spoke at the concluding session stressed that the work of the provisional commission and the first session of the Commission for the Protection of the Baltic Marine Environment promoted implementation of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe Final Act provisions on resolving environmental conservation problems.

Great attention is devoted to this by the governments of all the Baltic region countries. This is indicated by the greetings messages to the session from A.N. Kosygin, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and U.K. Kekkonen, president of Finland.

The session participants noted the important contribution made to successful work in protecting the Baltic marine environment by the Soviet Union and Finland by means of active cooperation in this sphere, which also promoted the success of the commission's first session in Helsinki.

'COOL REACTION' BY U.S. TO UN MOVES ON IRAN

LD181624 Moscow TASS in English 1522 GMT 18 May 80

[Text] Washington, May 18, TASS--News of the United Nations' intention to resume the work of the international commission of inquiry into the criminal activities of the USA in Iran where it supported for decades the shah's bloody despotic rule, met with a rather cool reaction in Washington. U.S. Secretary of State Edmund Muskie speaking in Bangor (Maine State), described as doubtful this initiative of the international community which wants to prevent the United States from using military force against Iran. He also said that the work of this committee will delay a settlement of the American-Iranian conflict.

It is pointed out here that the resumption of the work of the international commission would be undesirable to the United States at a time when it is trying hard to get its West European allies to take repressive sanctions against Iran.

'ARTILLERY SHOOTINGS' IN HORMUZ STRAIT TO BE HELD

LD181622 Moscow TASS in English 1520 GMT 18 May 80

[Text] Tokyo, May 18, TASS--Despite the miserable failure of the U.S. armed subversive action against Iran the USA continues building up tension near the shores of that sovereign country.

As was reported by the command of the U.S. Armed Forces in Japan, artillery shootings are to be held today in the Hormuz Strait, at the entrance to the Persian Gulf, from 13 to 21 hours today. In this connection the Japanese agency for safety at sea issued an urgent order for all Japanese ships in the said area to leave the danger zone.

The U.S. command in Japan does not say who is holding the shootings and what ships are involved. But the Pentagon, having taken course toward preparing armed ventures against Iran, has concentrated a giant naval armada of more than 30 ships, including several aircraft-carriers, off the Iranian shores. In the opinion of observers, American shootings in the Hormuz Strait, which is an important sea lane, may become a prelude to mining the strait or to starting a naval blockade against Iran.

NAVAL MANEUVERS NEAR IRANIAN COAST NOTED

LD192048 Moscow TASS in English 1508 GMT 19 May 80

[Text] New York, May 19, TASS--The armada of American war ships staying off the Iranian shores has begun military exercises, informed news agencies say referring to sources close to Pentagon circles. During these exercises American war ships are to hold artillery shootings in the Hormuz Strait which connects the Arabian Sea with the Persian Gulf. News agencies say that in this connection the Japanese agency for safety at sea has issued an urgent order for all Japanese ships in the area to leave the danger zone. Artillery shootings in the Hormuz Strait may, in the opinion of the observers, mark the beginning of Washington's military "sanctions" against Iran. More than 30 American warships, including aircraft carriers with several hundred planes and helicopters on board, are now concentrated near the Iranian shores.

U.S. President Carter's threats against Iran sound especially sinister against this background. Speaking in a Los Angeles TIMES interview, he said meaningfully that the United States would make full use of its possibilities. The president asserted haughtily that there is no one meriting trust in Iran who could speak for his country.

Washington, May 19, TASS--The White House's increasingly frequent threats against Iran are giving rise to great public concern in the USA. Women Strike for Peace, an influential public organization, stated in its statement that the abortive operation to rescue the hostages in Iran was a real misfortune to the American people because it only added fuel to the fire in an explosive conflict. The organization said this move whetted the Pentagon's blood thirsty appetites and at the same time placed the security and lives of the American hostages in real jeopardy.

The statement says President Carter seems to be ready to run risks which head the country nearer to war. This is being done, the statement says, in order to demonstrate his "firmness" and at the same time show that he is fit as a candidate for another term in the White House. In the opinion of this women's organization the only way to release the hostages is for the United States to admit the dirty things it was doing in Iran for many years in the past. America should also admit its involvement in the forcible overthrow of the duly elected Government of Iran in 1953 and the establishment of the hateful regime of the shah whose despotic and venal tyranny was supported by the United States in the course of the subsequent twenty five years.

In view of the President's refusal to offer apologies to the Iranian people, the American women say in their statement, the Congress should take this mission upon itself and carefully investigate Iran's legitimate and well-founded claims. The organization urges the U.S. Government not to stage in the future any such ventures which may put manking on the brink of a new world war.

HAWKS LEFT BEHIND BY ADMINISTRATION'S 'BELLICOSE CAVALCADE'

LD191455 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 14 May 80 Morning Edition p 4

[Unattributed "Rejoinder" from "The World Today" feature compiled by K. Perevoshohikov; "Taking the Bit Between Their Teeth"]

[Text] The U.S. "hawks" from the "Committee on the Present Danger," Senators Jackson, Goldwater and their ilk, took pride until recently in the fact that they always spearheaded the "psychological warfare" attacks against the relaxation of international tension. And you can imagine their perplexity when they suddenly found themselves virtually bringing up the rear in the bellicose cavalcade in whose vanguard the present White House administration is hurtling. Now the actions of the "hawks" of the old school look like a pale shadow compared with Washington's recent adventurist actions.

It was obviously in order to remain in the public eye that Barry Goldwater stated in the Senate that he was gravely concerned at the U.S. military actions against Iran which "could lead to a world catastrophe." "Let me remind my colleagues," Goldwater said, "that if we mine Iranian ports, if we declare a blockade, this would be an act of war.... I would earnestly ask the President to think very, very carefully before deciding to carry out an act of war."

Truly, the present Washington administration has gone so far in its madness that even recognized "hawks" like Goldwater are obliged to urge the White House to moderate its speed. After all who knows better than they that no "Soviet threat" exists, since they themselves invented it?

CONTINUING 'PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE' AGAINST CUBA SCORED

LD201009 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 18 May 80 p 5

[Article by I. Lebedev under the rubric "International Notes": "Dangerous Maneuvers"]

[Text] Washington is introducing new, dangerous elements into its anti-Cuban campaign. According to information made public by the Pentagon, U.S. naval and air forces are massing in southern Florida, on direct orders from the White House. A squardron of 10 A-4 ground-attack bombers has been sent to the U.S. Air Force base at Key West. A further seven similar aircraft are expected to arrive there soon. For its part, the naval command has sent a special subunit to Key West. As the Pentagon stated, this "strike force" will be there "on a permanent basis," supplementing the F-4 fighter-bomber subunits already stationed at Key West.

The American "big press" candidly writes that the United States' brazen saber rattling in direct proximity to Cuban shores is meant to "deter" the Havana government. This is also the purpose of the current large-scale "Solid Shield-80" maneuvers by the U.S. Armed Forces in the Caribbean Sea which involve dozens of ships, hundreds of aircraft and thousands of servicemen. The U.S. Marine Corps command timed new military exercises to coincide with these maneuvers, the purpose of the exercises being to enhance reservists' "mobilization readiness." These exercises will involve the rehearsal of an operation to airlift reservists from the air force base at Willow Grove (Pennsylvania) to the marines' "auxiliary airfields" at Cherry Point (North Carolina). Marines, auxiliary units, A-4 ground attack aircraft and C-130 military transport aircraft will participate in the exercises.

Washington's psychological warfare against the Island of Freedom has been kept up ever since the victory of the Cuban revolution whose socialist ideals are a powerful magnet for the peoples of Latin America. The U.S. military demonstration in the proximity of Cuba is a basic part of this psychological warfare. It is directed not only against the first socialist state in the Western Hemisphere but also against the peoples of those countries on the continent which are currently waging the struggle for liberation from pro-American dictatorial regimes.

Time has shown pretty persuasively that all attempts by U.S. imperialism to stifle the Cuban revolution have failed. Nor will the organizers of the campaign of threats and blackmail against the Island of Freedom have any joy this time. The former imperialist omnipotence in the Western Hemisphere has been consigned to oblivion. Cuba is an integral element in the fraternal community of socialist countries.

The provocative U.S. actions against Cuba are arousing indignation and protests all over the world. These actions seriously endanger the cause of peace and security not only in the region but throughout the world.

ORLOV COMMENTS ON RACIAL DISTURBANCES IN FLORIDA

LD192315 Moscow TASS in English 2125 GMT 19 May 80

[Text] Moscow, May 19, TASS--TASS political observer Igor Orlov writes:

Just like in the 60's, the world public is again disturbed and outraged by reports coming from the United States of mass repressions against the dissatisfied black population. 19 killed and about 350 wounded are reported in Miami, now living in an emergency situation, with its black ghetto declared "a military zone."

The current events are very similar in their scale to the uprising in Watts, a black ghetto, in 1965, when Los Angeles, for six days, looked very much like a front-line city, with sub-machine and automatic-gun rattle, grenade explosions and fires. Here are some tragic figures of those days: 36 killed, 1,032 wounded and nearly 4,000 arrested. The rebellion in Watts triggered off a whole series of mass disturbances involving the black population, which swept many U.S. cities during 1965-1967. The suppression of the protests resulted in 130 killed, thousands of wounded and arrested.

The current racial disturbances in Miami were caused by the indignation of the black population at the acquittal by the all-white jury of the four policemen who had beaten to death a 33-year-old black, Arthur McDuffie. The incident proved to be the last drop which overbrimmed the patience of the black population.

The racial explosion in Miami, just like in many other U.S. areas, has been brewing for a long time. Racial disturbances in the recent months took place not only in Florida, but also in California, Oklahoma, New Mexico, North Carolina, Georgia and other states. The reasons for the current racial disturbances are quite clear. The main one is to be found in the [word indistinct] that the situation in the United States for the 25 millions of the black population has not improved in the least, but deteriorated still further since the presidential commission investigating civil disturbances drew conclusions in 1968 which presented an indictment of the American way of life.

The commission report said that the dissatisfaction of the black population in all cities was caused by the prejudices, discrimination, unfavourable living conditions and the general sense of helplessness to change the conditions. It is white racism that underlies the explosive situation present in American cities, the report continued.

None of the previous governments, to say nothing of the current administration, did anything to alleviate the plight of the black population. On the contrary, inflated military budgets and the accompanying cuts in social and economic expenditures led to a further deterioration in such international problems, as unemployment, inflation, cuts in education and health care, which affect primarily the interests of the working people and particularly the black population. The system of discrimination and oppression of the black population is safeguarded by the ruling U.S. circles which today resort yet again to brutal repressions against the rebels fighting racial oppression.

KURDYUMOV DESCRIBES 'ALARM' OVER COMING RECESSION

LD151321 [Editorial Report] Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 8 May 1980 publishes on page 5 a 1,000-word Washington dispatch from correspondent N. Kurdyumov under the headline "The United States: Recession Approaching." The article describes the "alarm" among Americans at the "latest economic crisis" and outlines symptoms of inflation, rising prices, increasing unemployment and cuts in social expenditure. Kurdyumov notes the scale of redundancies in the auto industry and in other sectors, and describes the "dissatisfaction and anger of the workers" and "growing protest movements" among labor unions, concluding that "all this is symptomatic of the intensifying social contradictions and the increasingly acute class struggle in the citadel of capitalism."

MISSILE DEVELOPMENT PART OF 'WORLD DOMINATION' STRATEGY

LD200125 Moscow in English to North America 2300 GMT 19 May 80

[Text] On 18 May China conducted the first test of the intercontinental ballistic missile in the Pacific Ocean. Here is a commentary on the subject by Vladyslav Kozyakov.

According to the Japanese defense officials the tests have been conducted in the framework of China's policy of demonstrating force. The officials report that the weapon being tested is the CSSX-4 intercontinental rocket, which is capable of reaching the United States. Why should China claim such a weapon and how can it affect the security of the American people? I think this is a legitimate question Americans may ask themselves.

The leaders of China continue to assure Washington that their aim is to create a military buildup directed against the Soviet Union. They are using their anti-Soviet policy and propaganda to obtain modern armaments and military technology from the United States and other NATO countries, but Beijing's strategy threatens not only the Soviet Union and other neighboring countries but also nations on other continents too. According to military experts China already has medium-range missiles which can reach the territory of the Soviet Union, countries in the Middle East, Southeast Asia and other neighboring areas, so the development of the new intercontinental rockets, the CSSX-4, is not connected with Beijing's regarding these areas. It is connected with global strategy of world domination pursued by the Chinese leaders, and this strategy represents a real threat to United States security. And it is President's National Security Adviser Zbigniew Brzezinski who has initiated the policy of playing the Chinese card against the Soviet Union. What will he say now in connection with the announcement of Beijing's plans to develop intercontinental armaments capable of reaching the United States?

China's leaders seem to be playing the American card against America's security.

It is also notable that the present intercontinental ballistic rocket test has been announced in Beijing soon after another official statement saying that a new world war is inevitable. Deng Xiaoping said that a new world war may be postponed for 20 years but not prevented for ever. The Chinese strategists probably intend to use these two decades for the implementation of their declared military modernization with the help of American technology. Let's also recall that China refuses to sign any international agreements on limiting and reducing nuclear missile weapons. Under such circumstances further development of sophisticated long-range rockets by Beijing will inevitably aggravate stability in the world.

SOUTH KOREAN MILITARY ISSUES MARTIAL LAW PROCLAIMATION

Cabinet Resignation

LD200912 Moscow TASS in English 0852 GMT 20 May 80

[Text] Tokyo, May 20, TASS--The South Korean Cabinet of Ministers resigned today, dispatches from Seoul report. According to observers, the resignation was due to the serious aggravation of the inner-political situation in the country connected with the unceasing anti-governmentalmanifestations. Martial law was proclaimed throughout South Korea on Sunday, any political activity in the country is banned. Factually, all power is in the hands of the military.

Moscow Radio Commentary

SK200724 Moscow in Korean to Korea 1130 GMT 14 May 80

[Commentary on South Korean Situation]

[Excerpts] According to reports by foreign news agencies from Seoul, the military regime has proclaimed martial law throughout the entire nation. The army and police are on combat readiness. Tanks and automatic guns have appeared in downtown Seoul. Government buildings and newspapers, TV companies and news agency buildings are surrounded by armed soldiers.

The army and the command of [words indistinct] have taken emergency measures to protect national security in the event of the so-called threat from the North.

Foreign observers as well as foreign news agencies noted that the first move of the [word indistinct] was taken to suppress the antigovernment movement, gaining momentum across the nation. There are many reasons for the massive uprising by miners, students, workers and others.

As is known, after Pak Chong-hui disappeared from the political scene, his successors generously pledged such and such things. In consideration of the people's demands, they babbled that the general reforms including [word indistinct] in social, political and economic life would be made and democratic (?parliamentary) elections would be held and [word indistinct] would be shut down at the earliest possible date.

In the economic sector, they pledged to improve the people's livelihood and to reduce unemployment.

Already more than 6 months have elapsed since they made such pledges. But the situation remains unchanged. An AGENCE FRANCE PRESSE reporter in Seoul also said that there has been no change in South Korea.

Democracy in this country is a daydream just as it was during the rule of Pak Chong-hui.

Publications, radio, tv and other mass mediaare strictly consored. The economic situation in South Korea has further been exacerbated. Unemployment has risen to some 800,000. Many firms have gone bankrupt, since they could not compete with powerful monopolies.

The antigovernment advance staged by the students throughout the nation and the strong strikes by the miners and other workers, have driven South Korea's chronic political crisis to the verge of collapse. The reason is clear. The Korean people cannot abide the current situation, and they will not remain idle. The South Korean people, instead of [words indistinct], strongly demand democratization in political and social life and that their livelihood be guaranteed.

Kharkov Comment

LD191745 Moscow TASS in English 1645 GMT 19 May 80

[Text] Moscow, May 19, TASS--TASS news analyst Vasiliy Kharkov writes: Practically a new coup d'etat has been carried out in South Korea. The totality of power has been concentrated in the hands of right-wing military. Although a semblance of civilian government is still maintained, all it does is in effect to camouflage the tough control established by the generals. The new "strong man" in Seoul as he is referredto, General Chon Tu-hwan, head of the South Korean CIA and commander of the security forces was a man close to the late dictator Pak Chung-Hui, heading the military. He betrays all the signs of coveting the post of dictator himself.

The introduction of the state of emergency all over South Korea and the mass arrests that have followed, including among the political figures of the ruling and the opposition parties, have further sharpened the already complex situation in the country the last week passed in the south of Korea amid powerful manifestations by students supported by other segments of the population demanding democratic reforms, elimination of the shameful heritage left by the former dictator in the shape of the anti-popular constitution and the whole set of truly draconian laws.

Frightened by the scale of protests, the Seoul authorities have broadly relied on the use of military force. Attempting to justify these measures by provocative fabrications about an alleged threat of "attack from the North". The people of South Korea, however, rejected with indignation that unseemly propaganda ploy. With renewed energy it stepped up its demands for holding a general election, a political renovation of the present system, liberalisation and democratisation of all the aspects of national life as well as eliminating the national division.

Last autumn Washington had to part with its underling Pak Chung hui, attempting to use his assassination as a safety valve of sorts to let off the steam of the political crisis that was coming to a head in South Korea. The U.S. administration asserted that these developments in the south of Korea had allegedly opened the way for substantive changes and that a "reformed system" was in the making there. However, any calls inside the country for a liberalisation of the regime were suppressed by the Seoul military which exist only thanks to U.S. money and U.S. weapons.

At present, Washington feigns displeasure over the emergency measures imposed by the Seoul generals, the U.S. State Department has, reportedly, expressed a "profound concern" over the introduction in South Korea of a state of emergency and the overly gross interference of the military in politics. However, these verbal demarches of the United States can perhaps hope to deceive only some simpletons. No less than the Seoul top military leaders, Washington is afraid of any substantial shifts towards democratisation in South Korea. The fact is that the very same South Korean troops now launched by the overzealous generals to quell student demonstrations are part of the U.S.-South Korean Armed Forces headed by the Pentagon General John Witham.

There is no doubt that Washington would like to put some gloss to the Seoul regime, but in the face of the popular protests or when human rights are violated it relies on the policy of "mail fist", on new Seoul "king for a day" of the likes of General Chon Tu-hwan. It is people like him that are the most zealous servants of Washington which approaches South Korea above all from the viewpoint of the U.S. military and political interests.

AUCCTU, DPRK TRADE UNION DELEGATIONS HOLD TALKS

LD141519 Moscow TRUD in Russian 9 May 80 p 3

[Unattributed report: "Meeting at AUCCTU"]

[Excerpt] On 8 May, talks took place in the Palace of Labor between an AUCCTU delegation headed by AUCCTU Chairman A.I. Shibayev and a delegation from the General Federation of Trade Unions of Korea [tsentralnyy komitet obedinennykh profsoyuzov korei] headed by Kim Pong-chu, chairman of the federation.

During the talks which passed in a cordial, friendly atmosphere, the sides exchanged information on the main avenues of the activity of the Soviet and Korean trade unions and the achievements of the USSR and DPRK peoples in economic and cultural building.

AUCCTU Chairman A.I. Shibayev reaffirmed the unvarying solidarity of the USSR working people and trade unions with the Korean people's struggle for the withdrawal of foreign troops from the territory of South Korea and the country's unification on a peaceful, democratic basis. For his part Kim Pong-chu, chairman of the General Federation of Trade Unions of Korea, assessed highly the Soviet people's successes in communist building and expressed gratitude to the working people and trade unions of the USSR for their firm support for the Korean people's just struggle for the motherland's reunification.

During the meeting the importance was also stressed of further developing cooperation between the USSR and DPRK trade unions in the interests of the two countries' working people.

12 May Meeting

LD151525 Moscow TRUD in Russian 13 May 80 p 3

[Unattributed report: "A Friendly Visit: Korean Trade Union Delegation in the USSR"]

[Excerpts] A meeting took place yesterday between a delegation of the General Federation of Trade Unions of Korea [tsentralnyy komitet obedinennykh profsoyuzov korei] and the trade union aktiv. The guests were warmly and cordially welcomed on behalf of the AUCCTU leadership and the Soviet trade unions by A.I. Shibayev, chairman of the AUCCTU. He noted that during the talks, which passed in a fraternal, cordial atmosphere, an exchange of opinions took place on the further development of cooperation between Soviet and Korean trade unions, and also on certain questions of mutual interest concerning the international trade union movement. The great significance of the meeting held in Belgrade on 7 May between Comrade L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Korean Workers Party [KWP] Central Committee and DPRK president, was noted. A.I. Shibayev expressed confidence that the friendly visit of the delegation of the general federation of Trade Unions of Korea headed by Comrade Kim Pong-chu to the Soviet Union will serve the cause of further developing and deepening ties between the working people and trade unions of the two countries. He wished the Korean comrades new achievements in socialist building, a worthy greeting for the Sixth KWP Congress and successes in the struggle for the unification of the motherland on a peaceful, democratic basis.

Comrade Kim Pong-chu, leader of the Korean trade union delegation and chairman of the General Federation of Trade Unions of Korea, took the floor. He conveyed warm greetings from the DPRK working people to the Soviet people. Our visit, he said, coincided with the 35th anniversary of the victory over fascism. The Soviet people defended their great gains at the cost of blood. They are successfully continuing the path begun in October 1917 under the great Lenin's leadership.

The chairman of the General Federation of Trade Unions of Korea spoke of how the DPRK working people are preparing for the Sixth KWP Congress and of the resolution of tasks set by the 7-year plan. The speaker described in detail the Korean people's struggle for their motherland's unification and gave a high appraisal of the significance of the Soviet people's fraternal solidarity with that just struggle.

TSVETOV ON PASSAGE OF NO CONFIDENCE MOTION IN JAPAN

OW191413 Moscow in Japanese to Japan 1200 GMT 17 May 80

[Tsvetov Tokyo dispatch]

[Text] One of the reasons why the opposition party presented a no confidence motion in an attempt to unseat the government was that, as set forth in that motion, the government had blindly followed the United States in implementing its demand that Japan reject peace diplomacy and step up its military power. The fact that the no confidence motion was strongly supported in the Diet bespeaks the deep-seated discontent of all strata of the people in Japan with the policy of toeing the line of the current U.S. Government which seeks to undermine detente and return the world to the era of cold war.

Among the characteristics of the policy pursued by the Ohira cabinet are: joining in U.S. provocative actions against Iran, full support of President Carter's position over the Afghan issue, anti-Sovietism, meddling with the Olympic affair in order to undermine it, and an attitude of catering to the strong U.S. demand for a large-scale military buildup. Japan is now only next to nuclear-armed nations and to West Germany in military spending. The Carter administration forced a greater military buildup on the Ohira cabinet because it wanted to have an ally which could provide effective cooperation in carrying out its aggressive strategy in east Asia.

The United States needs the presence of an armed Japan in this part of the world for quite the same purpose as it needs NATO in Europe and Israel in the Middle East. The United States requires a Japan which is armed and moves at its beck and call because it will support the Carter administration's anti-Soviet policy and work for it in intimidating Southeast Asian countries should they move toward taking the road of political and economic independence after the example of the nations in the Middle East.

The opposition of the anti-mainstreamers in the Liberal Democratic Party to the Ohira faction did not stem from any difference in a basic stance but from the desire to seize power and carry on the same policies as the Ohira cabinet. The factional strife inside the Liberal Democratic Party has now reached the level where a split is unavoidable. Today's ASAHI SHIMBUN writes: The Liberal Democratic Party's one-party rule has been approaching its end after a quarter of a century, and now there is a prospect for a real end to this system.

The voice of the Japanese people, resolutely opposed to the policy of the government servile to the United States against the interests of the nation, has now found its expression in the passage of the no confidence motion. Thus, Japan has become the first of the U.S. allies in which a government supporting the United States, despite its pursuance of international tension, has been downed. This failure serves as a grave warning to the current U.S. Government and to those who are ready to sacrifice their diplomatic independence in order to support it.

KABUL PAPER HITS 'CAMPAIGN OF LIES' BY U.S. MEDIA

LD191156 Moscow TASS in English 1127 GMT 19 May 80

[Text] Kabul, May 19, TASS--The newspaper Kabul NEW TIMES exposes the activities of mass information media in the USA which spread slanderous inventions against the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan and the Soviet Union and which are trying to distort the relations of real friendship and cooperating existing between the two countries.

Although the Afghan press daily publishes statements by DRA officials on measures being taken by the leadership of the country to develop its economy and the labour enthusiasm of the people, American mass media deliberately distort all these facts. Thus, the Washington POST reported on big military actions allegedly taken by Soviet troops against peaceful Moslems residing in the Afghan capital. Such fabrications, the Kabul NEW TIMES says, are one of the many examples of an extensive campaign conducted against the Government of the DRA and the Soviet Union. The people of Kabul, the newspaper says, have never seen Soviet troops take action against the Afghan population, as the Washington POST alleges.

It is quite obvious, the Kabul NEW TIMES writes, that such a campaign of lies is being conducted for purposes of instigation. Irresponsible statements and reports come not only from mass media but also from American officials. As an example, mention should be made of a recent statement of U.S. Vice President Walter Mondale who alleged that the Soviet Union was building an air base in the south west of Afghanistan. This "canard" did not last long: In a few hours W. Mondale had to retract his own words.

At the same time the Voice of America radio circulated a new fabrication on the arrival of five thousand Czechoslovak soldiers in Afghanistan. This fabrication, just as all the others, the Kabul TIMES says, has no grounds whatsoever, since Czechoslovak troops have never entered the territory of the DRA.

Despite all exposures, mass information media in the USA continue to come up with ever new fabrications in which there is no grain of truth and which no one believes. All these vain attempts to give a distorted view of the situation in Afghanistan will fail completely, the Kabul NEW TIMES says in conclusion.

POLITICAL SETTLEMENT OF AFGHAN ISSUE 'IMPERATIVE'

LD191640 Moscow World Service in English 1300 GMT 19 May 80

[Text] The decisions adopted at the recent meeting of the Warsaw Treaty countries are meeting with broad response in the world. Here is what Viktor Glazunov has to say about this:

These decisions are viewed as a confirmation of the Soviet Union's and its allies' striving to reduce tension. This is particularly important in the current conditions of aggravated international tension. Nowadays newspapers, radio and television daily report disquieting events that take place in the Persian Gulf area, in the Caribbean, on the border between Afghanistan and Pakistan and between Vietnam and China, in the Middle East and in the south of Africa. These areas, usually referred to as hotspots, keep tension in the world growing and create obstacles on the road of easing tension.

In their declaration issued in Warsaw the Soviet Union and its allies say that they consistently stand for a fair and lasting settlement of all international conflicts irrespective of the region involved. Lasting peace in the Middle East could have been gained long ago by eliminating the consequences of the Israeli aggression and by restoring the rights of the Arab nations, including the Palestinian people's right to establish a state of their own, and when the Camp David conspiracy neglected to take into account these crucial questions of the Middle East settlement this aggravated the Middle East crisis instead of bringing general calm as promised.

And so the Soviet Union and its allies have called for a return to the road of a comprehensive settlement with the interests of all parties concerned taken into account.

In the West there has been a lot of hue and cry about Afghanistan of late. The West's attitude to Afghanistan is not normal. Since the April revolution of 1978 an undeclared war has been going on against the country from Pakistani territory. This war is sponsored by the United States and China. It's obvious that a political settlement of the issue is imperative. Such a settlement must guarantee a stop to all forms of outside interference in Afghan affairs and this would put an end to the necessity of keeping Soviet troops in Afghanistan. The Afghan Government is prepared for such a settlement and it said so recently. However, this initiative met with a negative response in Washington, probably because the United States does not intend to cease its undeclared war just as it does not intend to stop its anti-Iranian military blackmail which is creating an extremely disquieting atmosphere in the region of the Persian Gulf and the Indian Ocean.

Any local conflict pose a threat to world peace. That's why it's necessary to strive to eliminate conflicts in the world and this is what the Warsaw Treaty countries call for. This is why they propose a conference involving the leaders of all nations.

AFGHAN PAPER ON DRA GOVERNMENT PROPOSALS

LD192150 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1530 GMT 19 May 80

[Text] Kabul, 19 May (TASS)--The statement by the Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan [DRA] regarding ways of settling relations with Iran and Pakistan, which contains concrete and thoroughly considered proposals aimed at ensuring peace in southern Asia, has drawn a broad response throughout the world, writes the newspaper HAQIQAT-E ENQELAB-E SAWR today. However, notes the paper, there are still forces which come out against the political settlement of the situation which has come about in connection with the events in Afghanistan. This refers in particular to those who have, since April 1978, been pursuing a policy of interference in the internal affairs of Afghanistan with the aim of suppressing the Afghan democratic revolution.

One of the American administration's highly-placed officials, who did not go to the trouble of familiarizing himself with this document, nevertheless called the proposals of the DRA Government "superficial." But surely the demand of the Afghan people and the government that an end be put to the interference of international imperialism and its allies in the internal affairs of the DRA and the demand for peace and the proposal for a political solution of the conflict cannot be categorized as superficial.

Beijing, continues the newspaper, dismissing the proposals of the Afghan Government, has called them an "attempt to kill three hares with one shot and deceive the world."

Of course, the Chinese leadership would like to hear as much shooting as possible on Afghan soil, and of course they would like each bullet fired by a bandit from a Chinese automatic rifle or machinegun to cause the death of a child, woman or old man, to hit the peasant in the field while he is plowing, the Muslim while he is praying, the teacher during the lesson, the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan activist and soldier of the Afghan Revolutionary Army.

Beijing calls the Afghan proposals "an attempt to deceive the world." Deceive it about what? asks the newspaper. Who will be deceived in the world if armed interference by U.S. imperialists and Chinese hegemonists in Afghanistan's internal affairs finally comes to an end?

Who in the world will be deceived if the enemies who have undergone training and received arms abroad are not sent into the territory of Afghanistan, do not kill peaceful inhabitants, burn schools and deal out reprisals to the pupils? Who will be deceived by this? Only those who dream of stifling the April revolution in Afghanistan; only those who would like to drown in blood the Afghan people who have come to power and turn Afghanistan into a colony of international imperialism.

If peace is consolidated, the only people who will be "deceived" will be the Beijing leaders and their allies in the Pentagon and the CIA themselves. The only people who could be "deceived" are the enemies of Afghanistan, such as Deng Xiaoping and Brzezinski. But people such as them are in a tiny minority in the world.

Prime Minister Thatcher of Great Britain also found it necessary to reject the proposals of the DRA Government, although she admitted herself that she had not had time to read the document properly. "The Afghan proposals," she said, "are just a ruse in order to produce an effect on governments."

And that is true: The aim of the DRA Government proposals was to produce an effect on the Governments of the United States, China, Britain, Egypt, Israel and other countries in order that they might end their armed interference in Afghanistan's affairs. Such is the striving of the Afghan people and it coincides with the desire of all peoples of the world.

That is why the peoples of the world support the constructive proposals of the Afghan Government. And it is for that reason that they evoke fierce indignation among those for whom peace is more terrible than war, HAQIQAT-E ENQELAB-E SAWR stresses in conclusion.

DOST VIEWS UPCOMING ISLAMIC FOREIGN MINISTERS' MEETING

LD191119 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 14 May 80 p 3

[TASS report: "S.M. Dost Interview"]

[Text] Kabul, 13 May--Afghan Foreign Minister Shah Mohammad Dost has answered questions from a BAKHTAR agency correspondent in connection with the forthcoming convening of the 11th Conference of Foreign Ministers of the Islamic Conference Organization.

International imperialism headed by the United States, its allies and China, he said, are making efforts to ensure that the so-called "Afghanistan problem" is again raised at the conference. However, he stressed, the discussion of this artificially fanned question is contrary to the interests and the unity of the Islamic world, and we regard such discussion as overt interference in our country's internal affairs. The conference participants should focus their attention on questions which unite Muslims of the world, such as the settlement of the Near East crisis, the Palestinian problem and the question of the Israeli-occupied eastern part of Jerusalem.

Moreover, the Afghan minister noted, the Muslim countries must express solidarity with the Islamic Republic of Iran and support that sovereign state in its struggle against the policy of threats and flagrant blackmail on the part of international imperialism headed by the United States. Washington, S.M. Dost noted, is really threatening Iran's independence, territorial integrity and national sovereignty and creating a dangerous precedent for interference in the internal affairs of other Islamic states. The countries belonging to the Islamic Conference Organization must condemn the concentration of American Armed Forces in the regions of the Persian Gulf, the Arabian Sea and the Indian Ocean and elaborate a joint strategy for the struggle against economic blockade by the United States, which is using it as an instrument of pressure on independent states.

KOSYGIN RECEIVES INDIAN INFORMATION MINISTER

LD191244 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1100 GMT 19 May 80

[Text] In the Kremlin today, Aleksey Nikolayevich Kosygin received Sathe, India's minister of information and broadcasting, who is in the USSR at the invitation of the Soviet Government as a guest to the sixth international film festival of the countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America. A friendly conversation took place on matters of Soviet-Indian cooperation, including that in the field of cultural relations.

Yermash, chairman of the USSR State Committee for Cinematography, and Indian ambassador to the USSR Gujral, also took part in the conversation.

Sathe Praises Soviet Press

LD192358 Moscow TASS in English 2158 GMT 19 May 80

[Text] Moscow, May 19, TASS--The struggle for international detente, peace and understanding between states is the central task of the peoples of India, the Soviet Union and all other peace-loving countries in the conditions of a difficult international situation, said Vasant Sathe, the Indian minister of information and broadcasting, now in the Soviet Union on an official visit. He spoke at a reception he gave for Soviet mass media leaders.

Vasant Sathe spoke highly of the role of the Indian and Soviet press in the defence of peace. He said that an important part in the strengthening of understanding between the Soviet and the Indian peoples will be played by an agreement on cooperation and information exchanges between TASS and the PRESS TRUST OF INDIA, signed recently in the Soviet capital.

The agreement, said the minister, will considerably increase the flow of information coming to India from the Soviet Union and developing countries. This exchange of information will undoubtedly work for bringing together the peoples not only of the Soviet Union and India, but of many other countries as well, stressed the minister.

Vasant Sathe gave a high estimation of the important role played in the strengthening of world peace by Indira Gandhi, the Indian prime-minister, and Leonid Brezhnev, the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and president of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet. These two outstanding political figures of our time, said Vasant Sathe, will do everything to ensure peace and friendship for all nations.

R.D. SATHE SENT TO KABUL FOR TALKS ON AFGHAN PROPOSALS

LD162232 Moscow TASS in English 2140 GMT 16 May 80

[Text] Delhi, May 16, TASS--The Indian Government sent the Secretary for Foreign Affairs of the Foreign Ministry R.D. Sathe to Kabul for talks with Afghan leaders about the proposals of the Afghan Government regarding ways to settle its relations with Iran and Pakistan. This was said at a meeting of the consultative parliamentary committee under the Foreign Ministry by India's Foreign Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao, he stressed, among others, India's readiness to make an important contribution to a political settlement in the region. India, the minister said, will continue efforts aimed at resolving this problem through peaceful negotiations.

Return to India

LD191412 Moscow TASS in English 1400 GMT 19 May 80

[Text] Kabul, May 19, TASS--R.D. Sathe, secretary for foreign affairs of the Indian Foreign Ministry, has ended his visit to Afghanistan. During this visit he met foreign minister Sh.M. Dost of Afghanistan and S. A. Keshtmand, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, vice chairman of the Revolutionary Council and deputy prime minister of the DRA.

R.D. Sathe was received by Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, chairman of the Revolutionary Council, prime minister of the DRA. As was reported by the BAKHTAR news agency, R. D. Sathe and the Afghan leaders discussed questions of mutual interest and certain international problems, including the situation in the region.

R.D. Sathe left for home today.

PRC-BACKED SEPARATISTS ACTIVE IN NORTHEAST INDIA

LD191117 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 8 May 80 p 3

[TASS report: "Tense Situation"]

[Text] Delhi, 7 May--A tense situation, caused by intensified activity by Beijing-backed separatist and extremist groupings, is persisting in the state of Manipur in northeast India. More than 10 people have died at the hands of separatists in various regions of the state in the last few days alone. The bandits carry out their activity under cover of provocative slogans above the explusion from the state of the (Mayyang), as they call people who are not of Manipuri nationality, and the creation of an "independent state" under the aegis of Beijing.

The Indian press has repeatedly noted that the Chinese intelligence services are behind the Manipuri separatists. This is also indicated by recent arrests of bandits in the city of Imphal, the state's administrative center. When they were searched, subversive literature and pamphlets containing pro-Chinese propaganda were found, in particular. According to the Manipur security service, in April 85 people were arrested on the Indian-Burmese border, on their way to camps which have been created on Chinese territory, where they were to have undergone military training.

The central government and local authorities have repeatedly proposed to hold talks with the separatist leaders and peacefully discuss the situation which has arisen, taking into account the need to preserve the country's unity and strengthen its independent foreign policy course. However, the local press stresses, the government's initiatives run counter to the designs of the separatists' Chinese masters and their plans for military and political penetration of northeast India and for acquiring strategic outlets into the Bay of Bengal and the Indian Ocean.

The Indian public is demanding an end to the separatists' actions, the defense of the country's security and sovereignty and the resolute suppression of China's interference in India's internal affairs.

PHAM VAN DONG, SOVIET DELEGATE ADDRESS HANOI PEACE MEETING

LD161832 Moscow TASS in English 1804 GMT 16 May 80

[Text] Hanoi, May 16, TASS--Today in the Vietnamese capital an international conference "Vietnam and Peace World" has opened, organized by the World Peace Council together with the Vietnamese Peace Committee. The conference is devoted to the 90th anniversary of the first President of independent Vietnam Ho Chi Minh.

In all the languages of the world, the words "Vietnam and Ho Chi Minh" have become symbols of heroism, courage and unbending will in the struggle for national independence, Romesh Chandra, president of the World Peace Council said at the opening of the conference. All honest people of the planet have joined in the solidarity movement with the people of Vietnam. Powerful support was given to it by the socialist countries, in the first place, the Soviet Union. Thanks to the assistance and support, Vietnam emerged victorious from the hard protracted war against colonialists and aggressors, won a historic victory achieving a full liberation of the country and its reunification.

Addressing his greetings to the conference participants, Prime Minister of the Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam Pham Van Dong stressed that the conference constitutes a bright confirmation of the sympathy of the progressive public of the whole world for the Vietnamese people, recognition of the outstanding merits of its leader, the founder of the Communist Party of Vietnam, President Ho Chi Minh.

As it is for all the peoples of the world fighting for their national liberation, the immortal ideas of Lenin have become the guiding star for the Vietnamese people. Ho Chi Minh's greatest accomplishment, Pham Van Dong went on to say, was his creative application of the doctrine of Marxism-Leninism to the conditions of Vietnam, creation of the Communist Party and its transformation into a militant vanguard of the Vietnamese people. Armed with the great doctrine, the party became the inspiratain and the organizer of all the victories scored by the people of our country. Today, on the eve of the remarkable jubilee, we swear to continue the great cause of Ho Chi Minh and to realise his behests.

The most important events of the heroic history of the Vietnamese people have been associated with the name of Ho Chi Minh, head of the Soviet delegation, deputy chairman of the Presidium of the Soviet Peace Committee, the Flier-Cosmonaut of the Soviet Union G.M. Grechko said speaking at the conference.

In the hour of danger and trial, when U.S. imperialism unleashed its aggression against Vietnam, Ho Chi Minh's appeal that "nothing is dearer than independence and freedom" became the motto of all the Vietnamese patriots. The heroic people fulfilled with honour the sacred behest of its leader, defending the freedom and independence of its motherland and creating a united socialist Vietnam.

The events of recent years, head of the Soviet delegation pointed out, clearly demonstrate the danger emanating from the reactionary alliance of U.S. imperialism and Chinese hegemonism, for the cause of peace and independence in South East Asia and in the whole world. In these conditions the task of all people of good will is to do their utmost to intensify their support for Vietnam and to broaden the movement of solidarity with it.

The conference continues its deliberations.

NGUYEN CO THACH INTERVIEWED ON KAMPUCHEA, PRC

LD162320 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1500 GMT 16 May 80

[Text] Hanoi, May 16, (TASS)--The actions of the Beijing leadership constitute a most important obstacle in the path of consolidating peace and stability in Southeast Asia, Nguyen Co Thach, SRV minister of foreign affairs stated in an interview to a TASS correspondent. He spoke about his official visit to Malaysia and talks with the leaders of that country.

Beijing's policy--that is the threat hanging over the peoples of the countries of the region, and by no means only over Vietnam, the minister said. Beijing, hatching hegemonistic plans, trying to establish supremacy over all the countries of Indochina and Southeast Asia, is constantly jeopardizing the foundations of peace and stability in the region. At the moment its tactics amount to creating tension and threats along the borders. It is precisely China and the United States who are thwarting the recognition of the lawful government of Kampuchea and exerting pressure on other countries with the aim of inducing them not to recognize this government.

Touching on Vietnamese-Malaysian relations, Nguyen Co Thach said: Vietnam and Malaysia are two close, neighboring states of Southeast Asia having a common historical past, deeply respecting principles of independence and peace and having long-standing friendly relations. Today our peoples share a common aspiration to protect national independence and to establish a zone of peace and stability in Southeast Asia with the aim of building a happy prosperous life in accordance with the chosen path of development.

Vietnam, the minister stressed, has never shown any expansionist designs on ASEAN countries. However, this is precisely what Beijing is doing today. Vietnam has no territorial claims against ASEAN countries, as opposed to Beijing which continues to occupy territories of a number of countries, Vietnam and other developing states, such as India. We respect the ASEAN countries' positions and want to stress that the threat to their independence and sovereignty comes from Beijing.

As regards Vietnam's presence in Kampuchea, I want to assure everybody that as soon as the threat to Kampuchea from China disappears, we shall withdraw "in a day," the minister said. In Kampuchea, there is no "crisis problem," no "refugee problem" no starvation, nor many other things alleged above all by Beijing propaganda.

Kampuchea exists and lives mainly thanks to the invaluable assistance of the Soviet Union, Vietnam and the other socialist states. The Soviet Union renders all-round assistance to Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea in the protection of their independence and security, and contriubtes its share to the cause of consolidation of peace and security in Southeast Asia, Nguyen Co Thach stressed.

HOANG TUNG OPENS HANOI RADIO CENTER

LD191250 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1030 GMT 19 May 80

[Summary] Sergey Alekseyev, our correspondent in the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, reports that a radio broadcasting center built with Soviet technical assistance in a Hanoi suburb was brought into service on full power today. Speaking at a ceremony to mark the event Hoang Tung, member of the Central Committee of the Vietnamese Communist Party and head of the Agitation and Propaganda Department of the Central Committee, said: [Begin Hoang Tung recording in Vietnamese, with superimposed Russian translation]

"The CPSU and the Soviet Government have given us a wonderful present. The voice of our Communist Party, the voice of our people's struggle, the voice of its friendship and solidarity with all who cherish the ideals of freedom, peace and socialism will be heard not only in our country but in various regions of Asia, Africa and Europe, tens of thousands of kilometers away."

CERMONIAL HANOI MEETING MARKS VE DAY

LD151157 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 9 May 80 p 5

[Unattributed PRAVDA/TASS correspondents' reports: "For the Sake of Peace on Earth]

[Excerpt] 8 May--Hanoi--We are proud of our fraternal friendship with the heroic Soviet people who gained the glorious victory in the Great Patriotic War and liberated mankind from fascism, Maj Gen (Khoang Van Khan), commander, Vietnamese Air Defense Troops, said at the ceremonial meeting of the troops of the capital's garrison.

Today, he said, the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries are a reliable bulwark of peace and are thwarting the intrigues of international reaction headed by American imperialism and Beijing hegemonism.

DECISION TO HOLD INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON KAMPUCHEA EXAMINED

Lebedev Comment

LD121052 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0001 GMT 12 May 80

[Text] Moscow, 12 May, TASS--"The proposal to convene 'an international conference' was made without the People's Revolutionary Council of Kampuchea--the only legal representative of the country's people, even though, as has been declared prepeatedly by the republic's government, it deals with all problems concerning Kampuchea," writes Igor Lebedev in PRAVDA on the ASEAN countries' proposal to hold the so-called "international conference on the question of humane assistance to Kampuchea."

The commentator goes on to say, "This, in effect, is direct interference in the international affairs of the PRK [People's Republic of Kampuchea]."

The commentary underlines that the decision to convene this conference was imposed under direct pressure from Washington and Beijing. "Unfortunately, it is not humane motives to help the PRK overcome the difficult inheritance from the rule of the criminal Pol Pot regime which the idea of the conference conceals, but plans to interfere in the affairs of that long-suffering country."

"Certain circles have lately activated their attempts to distort the true state of affairs concerning the distribution of international aid to the Khmer people, the author continues. The United States, the Beijing leadership and certain circles in the ASEAN countries are not at all opposed to readdressing this aid to the so-called Kampuchean 'refugees' who are in fact the remnants of the Pol Pot gangs how being sheltered on Thai territory."

"Washington, Beijing and other 'do-gooders' claim that this international assistance consisting of provisions, medicines, consumer goods, etc., is being allegedly 'unfairly' distributed among the Kampuchean population. But this is a lie, the commentary says. It has been exposed in a document by the International Red Cross which together with Un Children's Fund (UNICEF) coordinates the aid being sent to the PRK."

"The PRK Government, the author points out, rightly considers that humane aid to Kampuchea could be increased without more 'conferences', if the interested states increased their contributions to the international aid program which has been drawn up and agreed by the United Nations."

Kampuchean Objection

LD200903 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 10 May 80 p 5

[TASS report: "Unlawful Attempt"]

[Text] Phnom Penh, 9 May--The People's Republic of Kampuchea Foreign Ministry assesses the UN Economic and Social Council [ECOSOC] adoption of a resolution on convening "an international conference on humanitarian aid" to Kampuchea as an unlawful attempt to resolve Kampuchea's problems without the participation and agreement of the Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Council [KPRC]--the sole full-fledged [polnopravyy] representative of the Kampuchean people.

The Kampuchean Foreign Ministry statement published here notes that the KPRC has no objection to the holding of an international conference which is actually aimed at rendering effective aid to the Kampuchean people in surmounting the very grave consequences of the rule of the reactionary Pol Pot clique. But the attempt to convene a "conference" without the participation of the KPRC is dictated by the desire of the Beijing expansionists and U.S. imperialists and the forces of international reaction to refuse the Government of the People's Republic of Kampuchea its legitimate right to resolve Kampuchea's internal questions.

The aid coming from the Soviet Union, Vietnam and other socialist countries and from international organizations is being distributed normally and the results of the activity of the KPRC in receiving and distributing it have been approved by representatives of international organizations.

The People's Republic of Kampuchea Government views the ECOSOC resolution as flagrant interference in Kampuchea's internal affairs. This resolution is a grave violation of the sovereignty of the People's Republic of Kampuchea and the KPRC therefore regards it as invalid and unlawful, the Kampuchean Foreign Ministry stresses.

U.S. PRC UNDERMINE SOUTHEAST ASIA SECURITY ARRANGEMENT

LD190715 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 13 May 80 Morning Edition p 5

[V. Ganshin article: "In the Hegemonists' Sights"]

[Text] "Energetic support for the countries of the ASEAN will be a conerstone of our policy," R. Holbrooke, U.S. assistant secretary of state for East Asian and Pacific affairs, said during his recent visit to countries of the association. "America has put an end to the period of indecision, particularly in this part of the world...."

The statement by the high-ranking American official reflects, by all accounts, a further U.S. desire to extend the zone of its interests and to bring other countries and regions into the orbit of the geopolitical course being pursued by the White House. A characteristic feature of this policy, particularly in the context of the proclaimed "Carter doctrine," is the sharp increase in U.S. pressure on Southeast Asian states aimed at imparting a clearly expressed military nature to ASEAN.

The U.S. desire to have a presence "absolutely everywhere," defining the zone of its "national interests" arbitrarily widely, is accompanied by efforts to build up its military might in this part of the world and by attempts to use the territories of certain countries in the region to preserve and strengthen American military bases there. Adm R. Long, commander, U.S. Armed Forces, Pacific and Indian Ocean region, who accompanied R. Holbrooke on his tour, declared, in particular, that Washington will seek to obtain naval bases to ensure its long presence on the oil routes from the region of the Near East with a view to protecting its "vitally important interests," as well as the "very important interests" of its allies. Thus, the U.S. administration has doubled aid to the Philippines in the sphere of ensuring security as a result of amendments to the agreements on bases concluded between the two countries last year. The two giant American bases at Subic Bay and Clark Field are already being used as staging areas for the transfer of a considerable contingent of U.S. marines from the Hawaiian Islands to the Arabian Sea region. In addition, it is planned to inaugurate air routes from the American bases in the Hawaiian Islands, on the Island of Guam and in the Philippines over the territories of Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore and Indonesia.

And so, the American military's overtly militarist preparations are being served up under the pretext of protecting its own and its allies' "national interests" and guarding the oil arteries linking the Near East with the West. But what kind of White House interests are these, thousands of miles from the banks of the Potomac? Are the ASEAN countries' security and sovereignty under such a threat that the transatlantic partner must interfere and turn this region into a powder magazine?

Practice shows that in this instance it is a question, above all, of new and extremely dangerous attempts by the Carter administration to ensure the realization of adventurist, hegemonist plans "from a position of strength." The United States, the Indonesian newspaper MERDEKA observes, has begun "realizing a strategic plan to strengthen its control over a vast region extending from the shores of Asia in the Indian Ocean to countries situated in the Pacific." To this end it is actively propagandizing the idea of creating some kind of "Pacific community" which, with the participation of the United States, Japan and Australia and also with the PRC's support, will impart a clearly expressed military-political nature to the future alliance and take the place of the collapsed SEATO bloc. The U.S. desire to deploy its naval forces in this region is certainly not the result of concern for its own or its allies' national interests but of fear of the further evolution of progressive transformations in Iran and Afghanistan and the American monopolies' fear of losing access to Near East oil and of the Pentagon's losing important strategic positions in that region.

No fewer fears are aroused in the United States by the Indochinese countries' active peace-loving foreign policy aimed at turning Southeast Asia into a zone of peace and stability. The ballyhoo about the imaginary danger which Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea allegedly pose to the ASEAN countries is a cover for plans to prevent the spread of positive processes in Indochina and to push the ASEAN countries into a dangerous confrontation with their neighbors. To this end the association states are being pressured by imperialism and the Beijing expansionists with a view to preventing the establishment of normal, good-neighborly relations in the region and maintaining a sustained hotbed of military danger there.

It is symptomatic that Beijing strategists, just like their American partners, are trying to pass off their hegemonist aspirations as concern for their own interests. Thus China suddenly acquired an acute need, according to Ye Fei, first political commissar of the PRC Navy (who now also holds the post of commander of the Navy of the Chinese People's Liberation Army), to "protect oil concessions in the South China Sea."

In this connection Chinese generals are showing special interest in buying diverse military equipment and hardware in the West, including for the navy. To this should be added the fact that in terms of the number of servicemen the Chinese fleet is the world's third biggest and the number of ships of various classes in the Chinese Navy already represents an impressive force, particularly for the littoral states in the region.

By using very different levers the Beijing leadership is seeking to step up its pressure on ASEAN states, to channel their policies in a direction advantageous to itself and the United States and to exacerbate their relations with the countries of Indochina. The generous promises, including ones of a military nature, issuing from Beijing and Washington attest to the latter-day "allies," determination to strengthen their influence in this strategically important region and to turn it into an outpost of militarism in Asia. And precisely these purposes were pursued, as foreign commentators pointed out, by the visit of Chinese Foreign Minister Huang Hua to the Philippines, Malaysia and Singapore.

During talks with President F. Marcos of the Philippines the Chinese emissary tried stubbornly to suggest the idea of a "Soviet threat" and put about wild fabrications about plans which the USSR allegedly has to capture oil-producing countries in the Near and Middle East and to establish control over the Strait of Malacca, the Indian Ocean and the South China Sea. In addition, Huang Hua attempted to convince the Philippines that only China and the United States are capable of ensuring the security of Southeast Asia.

Certain circles in West European countries are also trying to take a hand in the pursuit of such a policy. This is evidenced by the interest suddenly shown among the EEC partners in the "organization on paper," as they called ASEAN until recently. A characteristic feature in this connection, as the press of Southeast Asian countries points out, was the fact that the meeting of foreign ministers of ASEAN and EEC states held in Kuala Lumpur devoted most attention to military and political issues, not economic problems.

Such efforts by imperialist and reactionary forces have nothing in common with the long-term national interests of the countries of Southeast Asia. And it needs to be said that realistically minded statesmen and public figures in the countries of the region are well aware of this. Concerning the idea of setting up a military-political union of association states for the purpose of countering some "external threat," Malaysian Deputy Foreign Minister (M. Khashim) declared that his country will come out "against the signing of a defense pact among the ASEAN member countries." Such a pact, he emphasized at a press conference, "would mean the failure of the idea of creating the proposed zone of peace, freedom and neutrality in Southeast Asia." Speaking about the danger supposedly posed to the countries of the region by Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea, (Khashim) said that "at the present time Indochina does not pose a threat to neighboring countries."

The security of Southeast Asia and its transformation into a zone of peace, freedom and good neighborliness can be ensured not by fueling tension and by confrontation between neighboring countries but as a result of the peoples' resolute, consistent struggle to strengthen peaceful coexistence and detente and mutual respect for the sovereignty and independence of all states of the region.

REPORTAGE ON ROMANIA'S VERDET TALKS IN MOSCOW

Kosygin, Verdet Talks

LD191536 Moscow TASS in English 1522 GMT 19 May 80

[Text] Moscow, May 19, TASS--Aleksey Kosygin had a meeting with Ilie Verdet in the Kremlin today. Member of the Political Executive Committee of the Central Committee of the Romanian Communist Party, Prime Minister of the Government of the Socialist Republic of Romania Ilie Verdet arrived in Moscow today on an official friendly visit at the Soviet Government's invitation.

In the course of the conversation Aleksey Kosygin and Ilie Verdet noted with satisfaction that the relations of friendship and cooperation between the Soviet Union and the Socialist Republic of Romania are developing on the basis of the 1970 treaty of friendship, cooperation and mutual assistance. The mutual striving of the sides to expand Soviet-Romanian ties in various fields in accordance with the understandings reached at the meetings of the General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, President of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet Leonid Brezhnev with the general secretary of the Romanian Communist Party, President of the Socialist Republic of Romania Nicolae Ceausescu was confirmed. Also studied during the conversation were topical international problems and tasks of the struggle for detente and security in Europe, for the strengthening of universal peace. The conversation passed in a warm, comradely atmosphere.

Kosygin Hosts Dinner

LD191738 Moscow TASS in English 1710 GMT 19 May 80

[Text] Moscow, May 19, TASS--The USSR Government today held a dinner in the Grand Kremlin Palace in honour of Ilie Verdet, member of the Political Executive Committee of the Central Committee of the Romanian Communist Party, prime minister of the Government of the Socialist Republic of Romania.

Present with Ilie Verdet were the officials who are accompanying him in his trip and the Romanian ambassador in the USSR Traian Dudas. Present from the Soviet side were Aleksey Kosygin, Nikolay Tikhonov, Mikhail Solementsev, Konstantin Rusakov, deputy chairmen of the USSR Council of Ministers and other officials. A speech was made at the dinner by Aleksey Kosygin, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers. Then a speech was made by Ilie Verdet. The speeches by Aleksey Kosygin and Ilie Verdet were heard with much attention and received with applause. The dinner passed in a warm, friendly atmosphere.

CPSU'S RYABOV RECEIVED BY TODOR ZHIVKOV

LD161119 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 14 May 80 p 4

[Text] Sofia, 13 May, TASS--T. Zhivkov, first secretary of the BCP Central Committee and chairman of the Bulgarian State Council, today received A.P. Ryabov, first deputy chairman of USSR Gosplan. The meeting discussed the prospects for further expanding the cooperation between Bulgaria and the Soviet Union in the sphere of computer equipment in 1981-1985. N.P. Tolubeyev, USSR ambassador to Bulgaria, was present at the meeting.

PRADVA: ERICH HONECKER ARTICLE ON VICTORY ANNIVERSARY

LD190719 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 8 May 80 p 4

[Article by Erich Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR State Council: "Our Common Holiday"]

[Text] Berlin, May--It is the 35th anniversary of the victory secured by the Soviet Union and its glorious armed forces over Hitler's Germany on the decisive front of World War II. This victory saved mankind from barbarism and brought freedom to our people too. The foundations were thereby laid in the world for further radical changes in favor of socialism, peace, democracy and the anti-imperialist movement. Fighters for progress, wherever they live, have every reason to assess the Soviet Union's liberation exploit as the most significant event since Red October. It opened a new chapter in the history of mankind.

The Soviet people's heroic victory in the Great Patriotic War and what that victory secured convincingly indicate the worldwide historical role of the Soviet Union. The country of the builders of communism, its dynamic growth, its successes in all spheres for the good of people and its enterprising peace policy give tremendous impetus to international development as a whole. The Soviet Union, its example, its might and its influence constitute a transforming historical force not only for the present but for mankind's future prospects too.

That is why in connection with the 35th anniversary of the victory over Hitlerite fascism, our party and the GDR Government and people are declaring the full depth of their fraternal unity with the land of Lenin. We greet and wholeheartedly congratulate the Soviet people, all Soviet communists, the CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Government on this holiday. We send our greetings with particular cordiality to our friend and Comrade L. I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and the premier fighter for world peace, who enjoys high respect throughout the world.

People in the GDR will forever hold in veneration the memory of the 20 million Soviet people who gave their lives for the victory over Hitlerite fascism. They died that our people too might live in conditions of freedom and renew their existence. The implementation of their precepts, the precepts of all the antifascist fighters, is a sacred duty for us, and we will never be false to that duty. It has been accompanied from the very first hour by the development of fraternal friendship between the GDR and the Soviet Union --friendship which is constantly deepening.

Victory Day, Liberation Day, is our common holiday. The defeat of Hitlerite fascism by the Soviet country's heroic forces opened up the path to the foundation and successful development of the GDR--the first socialist state of workers and peasants on German soil. We can note with satisfaction that our people make successful use of the historic opportunity which was granted them. Imperialism and fascism and the reactionary spirit of aggressive aspirations, racism and scorn for other peoples have been completely eliminated among us. There was a complete and decisive break with the accursed past. Conclusions have been drawn from the lessons of history, and these conclusions have been embodied in reality.

As an inseparable constituent part of the socialist community, the GDR is the embodiment of our people's firm resolution to take the side of socialism and peace. The ideas of Marx, Engels and Lenin are being implemented here, and these ideas demonstrate their inexhaustible vitality on German soil too. This is reflected in the tremendous changes which have taken place over 35 years, as a result of which our people's life has changed strikingly for the better.

Thanks to staunch labor and in the course of the constant class struggle against imperialism, we have successfully fulfilled the tasks facing us in creating a new life, in a unified revolutionary process we have carried out antifascist and democratic transformations and embarked on the socialist revolution. Now, in advancing along that path, in accordance with the Ninth SED Congress decisions we are building a developed socialist society and thereby creating the fundamental preconditions for the gradual transition to communism.

We are commemorating the 35th anniversary of Liberation Day as an event which reminds us above all of the need to maintain and ensure the lasting peace which was won during World War II at the cost of such sacrifices. The CPSU and the Soviet Government have tirelessly exerted their efforts in this direction over those 35 years. It was basically their initiatives in the interests of peaceful coexistence between states with different social systems which led to noteworthy international changes for the better. True to the principles of Leninist foreign policy, the Soviet Union persistently advocates an end to the arms race and practical disarmament measures, and thereby the resolution of the most important problem of world politics.

As you know, certain imperialist forces, particularly in the United States, for whom peaceful coexistence among peoples is an eyesore, have now appreciably exacerbated the international situation. They are implementing a policy of transition from the relaxation of tension toward confrontation and are even prepared to push mankind to the brink of world nuclear war for the sake of their aggressive machinations. This is indicated above all by NATO's unrestrained arming, which is being stepped up in accordance with the long-term Washington program and the Brussels NATO decision on the production and deployment of new American medium-range nuclear missiles in West Europe, near the Soviet Union.

This is indicated equally clearly by the threats of political blackmail, economic boycott and military force which the Carter administration is using against Iran. The ignominiously aborted aggressive military action recently undertaken by the United States against that country with a view to reversing revolutionary development there is another example of how shamelessly Carter and his entourage treat the independence, sovereignty and territorial inviolability of other states. They are daily whipping up the danger of conflict, exacerbating international tension and acting against the peoples' peaceful interests.

The same imperialist concept is the source of the policy of boycotting the 1980 Moscow Olympics, which Washington wants to foist on its allies by means of hollow arguments and various means of pressure. The enemies of detente are exposing themselves completely as opponents of the Olympic idea of peaceful athletic contests and meetings aimed at the peoples' unification. And it is not surprising that their actions are arousing indignation and justified protests among the world's athletes. As for GDR athletes, they, together with athletes in many other countries, are joyfully awaiting the days they will spend in the hospitable Soviet capital, and are preparing for those days with tremendous enthusiasm. Those who value the interests of peace must resolutely rebuff the imperialist encroachment on the Moscow Olympic games.

It is laughable that those who are themselves to blame for the deterioration in the international situation are trying to link it to events in Afghanistan. That country's peoples are staunchly defending their new power and the results of the April revolution against imperialist aggression from outside and reactionary intrigues inside the country. Their cause is a just one, and so the GDR is in complete solidarity with the Afghan people's struggle and is firmly on the side of the Soviet Union, which is giving them international assistance.

We are wholly and completely in agreement with our Soviet friends that the eighties must be a decade of substantial progress in the struggle for prolonged peace, for an end to the arms race and for concrete disarmament measures. Within the framework of the Warsaw Pact, which was signed 25 years ago, the GDR will continue to make a constructive contribution to this. We once proclaimed as the fundamental principle of our foreign policy the commitment to do everything possible to ensure that war never again originates on German soil. We have always been true to this principle. The fact that the GDR is located in Europe at the junction of the two social systems--socialism and imperialism, the Warsaw Pact and NATO--invests it with particular responsibility. Hence too the duty to always maintain our country's defense capability at the necessary level. Together with the glorious armed forces of the Soviet Union, our National People's Army watches reliably over peace.

The GDR today is a politically stable, economically mightly socialist state with flourishing science, art and culture. In the 35 years since liberation profound transformations have taken place in the life of our country's people. The age-old demand of the German revolutionary workers movement has been fully implemented: All that is created by the people's hands is their property. A socialist planned economy has become established and has proved itself. Whereas in 1946 production reached only 42 percent of the 1936 level, by 1956 it has already exceeded the prewar level, and in 1979 it was 23 times the figure for the year after the war ended. Alongside the material foundations of society, the people's spiritual makeup has also changed. It is now characterized by antifascism, love for peace and international unity with the fraternal countries and all fighters for national and social liberation.

As the building of the developed socialist society takes place, processes are occurring which are causing tremendous changes in all spheres of life. Here it is quite clear that today considerably greater significance than in the past, from the viewpoint of further progress, is attached to the growth in the efficiency of social production in all sectors of the national economy.

In order to further implement our sociopolitical goals--in view of the changed international conditions--it is necessary to increase labor productivity considerably more rapidly than hitherto. Our party takes this fact into account in its economic and social policy. Above all we are directing efforts toward exploiting the advantages of socialism on a large scale in implementing the scientific and technical revolution. Naturally, here the GDR can rely on the experience of past years in the task of intensifying production. But today it is necessary to substantially accelerate development and strive for results with a higher national economic return. We attach tremendous significance to using energy and materials with the greatest possible efficiency.

The GDR working people are well aware of the new demands. Nothing, perhaps, indicates this more convincingly than their numerous initiatives in competition, aimed at considerably overfulfilling plans and achieving the highest possible results for the same expenditure. Relying on the masses labor activeness, we intend to continue to ensure uninterrupted economic growth and to guarantee and gradually improve the material and cultural living standard achieved by the people.

Today cooperation with the Soviet Union has reached an unprecedented scale and has penetrated every sphere of our life. Since the liberation we have always been able to rely on fraternal unity with the Soviet Union. Our cooperation has constantly improved, and the directions for its further development are clearly defined for decades ahead. The specialization and coproduction program between the USSR and the GDR through 1990 has been formulated and adopted in this spirit. Taking into account the close connections between that program and the CEMA long-term targeted programs, a broad strategy for our cooperation, based on the division of labor, stands out clearly. The fact that the coordination of our two countries' 5-year plans for the period 1981-1985 will entail a trade turnover totaling R48 billion speaks for itself.

Practice confirms that as we move forward in the building of socialism and communism, so cooperation between the GDR and the USSR becomes increasingly close and fruitful. The more actively its potential is utilized, the better tasks are fulfilled in one's own country. That is why the SED is effectively applying the rich experience accumulated by the Soviet people in the struggle to implement the 25th CPSU Congress decisions along the path of communist building.

In order to reveal more clearly the tremendous value of our countries' economic collaboration, let us cite just one example. When economic plans for the future are discussed in capitalist industrial states today, every topic is permeated by fear of the consequences of the energy and raw materials crisis, whereas the socialist GDR can rely in the next 5-year plan too on reliable deliveries of raw materials and fuel from the Soviet Union to meet a decisive proportion of the GDR's import requirements in this sphere. This is an advantage which is highly valued by our people. The GDR, for its part, supplies the USSR above all with modern machines and consumer goods. No less weighty are our joint efforts aimed at utilizing the potentials of the scientific and technical revolution. As is known, these are concentrated in such promising spheres as microelectronics and modern computer technology.

The broad cooperation between our two states would be inconceivable without firm friendship between the peoples of the GDR and the Soviet Union. The activists of the first hour have handed on the baton of this friendship to later generations. Its spirit can be felt everywhere in our country--in schools and universities, in national people's army units and labor collectives. The network of personal ties between our countries' citizens has become firm and multifaceted. From all that has been said, it can be noted with satisfaction that the 7 October 1975 Treaty on Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance Between the GDR and the USSR is being successfully implemented. And it lays down the main directions of our joint efforts in the two countries' interests right through to the start of the next millennium.

At present the eyes of our country's citizens are turned toward the 10th SED Congress, which is scheduled for spring 1981, so as to outline the further goals of socialist building. This will be a major event in our society's life. The GDR working people are preparing to greet it with new initiatives in the all-round strengthening of the GDR.

In connection with the 35th anniversary of victory over Hitlerite fascism I will take this opportunity to convey to the Soviet people the most cordial wishes for further successes in fulfilling the 25th CPSU Congress decisions, in the impressive cause of communist building and in the struggle for peace.

FURTHER REPORTAGE ON BREZHNEV-GISCARD MEETING IN WARSAW

Gierek Luncheon

LD191454 Moscow TASS in English 1437 GMT 19 May 80

[Text] Warsaw, May 19, TASS--Edward Gierek, first secretary of the Central Committee of the Polish United Workers Party, held today a luncheon in honour of the General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, President of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet Leonid Brezhnev and the President of the French Republic Valery Giscard d'Estaing. The discussion of questions of interest to the sides was continued during the luncheon.

Present at the luncheon were member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the USSR Andrey Gromyko, the Minister of Foreign Affairs of France Jean Francois-Poncet and alternate member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Polish United Workers Party, Poland's Minister of Foreign Affairs Emil Wojtaszek.

Joint Announcement

LD191454 Moscow TASS in English 1450 GMT 19 May 80

["Joint Announcement on the Meeting in Warsaw"--TASS headline]

[Text] Warsaw, May 19, TASS--The following joint Soviet-French announcement has been published here:

Talks were held in Warsaw on May 19 between the General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, President of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet Leonid Brezhnev and the President of the French Republic Valery Giscard d'Estaing with the participation of the First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Polish United Workers Party Edward Gierek.

The talks were of a working nature. Questions of the international situation and initiatives directed at lessening the existing tension were discussed. Questions of bilateral relations were also discussed.

Leonid Brezhnev and Valery Giscard d'Estaing expressed gratitude to the Government of the Polish People's Republic and personally to Edward Gierek for the warm hospitality and for providing the necessary conditions for holding the talks.

Taking part in the meeting were member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the USSR Andrey Gromyko and the Minister of Foreign Affairs of France Jean Francois-Poncet.

Giscard Comment

LD192158 Moscow TASS in English 2140 GMT 19 May 80

[Text] Warsaw, May 19, TASS--The negotiations I conducted in Warsaw with L.I. Brezhnev at the initiative of Edward Gierek achieved their purpose, President Valery Giscard d'Estaing of France told journalists today before flying home. Their purpose was to examine for the first time this year topical problems, ascertain at the high level the development of the international situation and find ways for reducing the existing tension.

These negotiations showed that views are apart on one point. This concerns primarily Afghanistan. While discussing other questions the fact was reaffirmed that there is goodwill for cooperation and understanding, and the need to continue a dialogue. Touching on questions of the causes of the present tension in the international situation, the French president said that it is necessary, first of all, to convene a summit conference of states which are responsible for the situation. Only after that, in his view, it will be possible to start examining the recent initiatives advanced by the socialist countries.

The exchange of views which took place at the negotiations was useful for maintaining peace and detente, Valery Giscard d'Estaing stressed.

Asked by correspondents how much he was satisfied with the negotiations, the president of France said that it was difficult for him to use epithets but the exchange of views was useful.

I attach very great importance to negotiations between leaders of France and the Soviet Union, particularly, to the sixth meeting with L.I. Brezhnev. During such contacts we share information in our possession and exchange views. And this is, undoubtedly, useful for maintaining peace and strengthening detente. I am sure that our negotiations will make a positive contribution to this field.

The president pointed out that they are sure to continue French-Soviet summit contacts. He added that the negotiations, undoubtedly, furnished useful information to both sides on how to achieve reduction of the present tension in the world.

Giscard Departure

LD191634 Moscow TASS in English 1549 GMT 19 May 80

[Text] Warsaw, May 19, TASS--The President of France Valery Giscard d'Estaing and the French Foreign Minister Jean Francois-Poncet left here for home today.

At the airport they were seen off by the First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Polish United Workers Party Edward Gierek, alternate member of the political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Polish United Workers' Party, Poland's Minister of Foreign Affairs Emil Wojtaszek, secretary of the Central Committee of the Polish United Workers Party Jerzy Waszczuk and also the French ambassador in the Polish People's Republic Jacques Dupuy.

Brezhnev, Gromyko Leave

LD191428 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1408 GMT 19 May 80

[Text] Warsaw, 19 May, TASS--Leonid Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and Andrey Gromyko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR foreign minister, left Warsaw for Moscow on 19 May.

At the airport, decorated with the state flags of the USSR and the Polish People's Republic, Leonid Brezhnev and Andrey Gromyko were seen off by Edward Gierek, first secretary of the PZPR Central Committee, Emil Wojtaszek, candidate member of the PZPR Central Committee Politburo and foreign minister of the Polish People's Republic, and Jerzy Waszczuk, secretary of the PZPR Central Committee.

Among tne seeing-off party were Boris Aristov, USSR's ambassador to the Polish People's Republic and Anatoliy Kovalev, USSR deputy foreign minister. Andrey Aleksandrov and Anatoliy Blatov, assistants to the general secretary of the CPSU central committee, also departed for Moscow.

Brezhnev, Gromyko Arrive Home

LD191834 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1630 GMT 19 May 80

[Text] Leonid Ilich Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, and Andrey Andreyevich Gromyko, member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee and USSR minister of foreign affairs, returned to Moscow today. They had been staying in the capital of the Polish People's Republic at the invitation of Edward Gierek, first secretary of the Polish United Workers Party. In Warsaw Comrade Brezhnev had a meeting with Giscard d'Estaing, president of the French Republic.

Comrades Brezhnev and Gromyko were met at Vnukovo Airport by Comrades Andropov, Grishin, Kirilenko, Kosygin, Pelshe, Suslov, Tikhonov, Chernenko, Gorbachev, Demichev, Kuznetsov, Ponomarev, Solomentsev, Kapitonov, Dolgikh, Zimyanin, Rusakov and other comrades. Those in the welcoming party included Olszewski, ambassador of the Polish People's Republic in the Soviet Union. Aleksandrov and Blatov, aides of the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, also returned to Moscow.

French Reaction Assessed

LD192156 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1945 GMT 19 May 80

[Text] Our correspondent reports from Paris:

The meeting between Leonid Ilich Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and President Valery Giscard d'Estaing of France has drawn a very lively interest here. French newspapers and radio and television stations have devoted lengthy commentaries to the event, stressing the importance of the talks which took place at a time when the U.S. administration having for all intents and purposes challenged detente, is constantly intensifying its pressure on West European countries, and in particular on France, striving to replace the spirit of Helsinki with the spirit of cold war. Under these conditions by no means have all of Washington's partners on the West European Continent found the strength to pursue their own independent policy. An example of this may be served by the decision by the recent NATO leadership session in Brussels where, to the accompaniment of anti-Soviet hysteria from across the Ocean, it was recognized as essential to increase substantially the North Atlantic bloc's spending on arms. This was in contrast to the new peace proposals made by the participants in the conference of the Political Consultative Committee of the Warsaw Treaty states taking place at the same time--proposals directed at strengthening detente and ending the arms race.

Many here in Paris connect the talks between Leonid Ilich Brezhnev and Valery Giscard d'Estaing in Warsaw with the history of the relations between France and the USSR which were at the source of detente. During the past 15 years these relations have invariably been oriented toward deepening detente and the extension of mutually advantageous cooperation, and there is every reason to think that they preserve stability in the now more complicated situation of international relations, too. The present meeting between Leonid Ilich Brezhnev and Valery Giscard d'Estaing, as the majority of French observers note, should serve as a basic point on the path toward renewing a constructive dialogue between East and West without which it is impossible to build any serious hopes for preserving detente.

IZVESTIYA ON UK BILL ON ANTI-IRANIAN SANCTIONS

LD191115 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 15 May 80 Morning Edition p 5

[Correspondent V. Skosyrev dispatch: "Without Thinking of the Consequences"]

[Text] London--The British House of Commons is hastily considering a bill on sanctions against Iran.

The British parliamentary machinery usually works at snails pace and it is months--sometimes years--before bills gain legal force. But everything is different on this occasion. The wheels of Westminister are turning at full speed. It is expected that by the end of the week the Foreign Office will be able to report to the Common Market headquarters that Britain is ready to exert economic pressure on Iran.

Why the haste? No one here is making any secret of the fact that the government is forcing the anti-Iranian legislation through Parliament under pressure from Washington. The United States has demanded that its allies also show "solidarity" and the Tory leadership is seeking speedily to give evidence of loyalty to the senior partner.

To be fair, it should be noted that no one in London is expressing delight at the measures that are being taken. Not only a considerable section of the Labor opposition, but also a number of members of Parliament from the ruling party are sharply criticizing the bill. They are afraid that complicity with the adventurist U.S. course may have a pernicious effect on Britain's economic interests in Iran and other Near Eastern countries. Reflecting these circles' mood, THE TIMES complains in an editorial that Britain is faced with an "agonizing choice." On the one hand, participation in the sanctions will undermine still more severely the prestige of British policy in the eyes of the Muslim world. On the other, THE TIMES continues, if you reject sanctions, you will mortally offend the White House. In short, a dilemma....

During the polemic that developed in the House of Commons the Conservative J. Critchley also cited the following argument: The Americans did not deem it necessary to consult with London when they were preparing the recent sabotage raid in Iran, so why are they demanding unquestioning support from us? The Tories do not dare give a direct answer to this question. But even so, it is clear that the pro-American policy of M. Thatcher's government has placed Britain in the position of a U.S. client that has no opportunity to adopt an independent position.

ATHENS PRESSURE GROUP PROTESTS U.S. MILITARY PRESENCE

LD141433 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 9 May 80 Morning Edition p 4

[Correspondent B. Lipovoy report from A. Kapralov "World Today" roundup: "Against Dangerous Designs"]

[Text] A statement has been issued in Athens by the Pan-Hellenic Committee for the Prohibition of Foreign Military Bases on Greek Territory, expressing profound concern at the sharply increased danger of the country's being dragged into the adventurist plans of the American military, which has openly embarked on a path of whipping up militarist hysteria, correspondent B. Lipovoy reports.

As the statement notes, this danger is determined by the presence on Greek territory of more than 30 American military installations, and by the continuing use of Greek ports as anchorages for ships of the American 6th Fleet. The foreign military presence on the country's territory, the statement notes, constitutes an outright restriction of Greece's sovereignty and national independence.

NATO 'DIVISION OF LABOR' GIVES U.S. MILITARY SCOPE ELSEWHERE

LD161111 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 11 May 80 p 3

[Col M. Ponomarev military-political review: "What Lies Behind the 'Division of Labor' Concept"]

[Text] Among NATO circles a new military policy concept is acquiring an increasing number of supporters. This concept has various names: "division of labor," "distribution of responsibility" or even "division of the moral burden" in NATO. Nor is there one single opinion about its authors. Some assert that it was conceived in Washington, others in Bonn's government offices.

Indeed, who was the first to say "ah" is not that important. The point is the actual essence of the new-found "theory." As its supporters conceive it, it is designed to reconcile the policy and practical actions of the NATO leadership and of the West European NATO countries' governments and military departments with the present course of the Carter administration in the United States. In accordance with the "division of labor" concept Washington, without even a nod to its allies, is building up its military presence in the Near and Middle East, the Indian Ocean and other parts of the world while the United States' leading NATO partners assume some of the U.S. functions in West Europe. Here the role of the main shock force in the bloc's "European strategy" is assigned to West Germany and its armed forces.

What is Washington hoping to achieve by insisting on the "division of labor" in NATO? Above all a free hand for operations in southwest Asia and other regions. The foreign press is reporting increasingly often on Pentagon plans to transfer some of its troops from West Europe to bases in the Indian Ocean. Moreover, the Washington POST described the content of a secret Pentagon report which examines the possibility of an almost complete withdrawal of U.S. troops from West Europe. "This would release limited U.S. military forces for use in other parts of the world," the report says.

All the above in no way means that the United States intends to slacken its influence in West Europe or renounce its role as guarantor of the unshakability of the regimes existing there. The White House is counting on the notorious "NATO solidarity"--understanding and support from its NATO partners. There is undoubtedly a certain commonality of interests among the bloc countries' ruling circles. They are united by hatred of socialism and by the desire to change the correlation of forces in the international arena in their favor, achieve military superiority and at the same time ensure maximum profits for firms fulfilling military orders. These class-based interests are forcing NATO West European countries' governments to set aside and conceal intra-imperialist contradictions, to act in a single front with the United States and to recognize Washington's dominant role in NATO.

At the same time it should be stressed that, before agreeing to the idea of the "division of labor" and embarking on its practical implementation, U.S. ruling circles took a number of steps to attach their West European partners still more firmly to their policy and to restrict the latter's freedom of action. The most important of these measures was the NATO Council decision, taken in December 1979 under U.S. pressure, to deploy new U.S. nuclear missiles on the territory of a number of West European countries. Essentially this decision turned the European NATO countries into U.S. hostages.

In imposing the medium-range missiles decision the White House, as in many other cases, did not stop at direct deception of its partners. In seeking the West European allies' agreement to the missiles' production and deployment, the United States promised in exchange the speedy ratification of the SALT II treaty. But what happened? Preparation for the missiles' deployment is in full swing, but the ratification issue has been postponed indefinitely. It was the same when the United States imposed on Western Europe, against the latter's interests, the decision on economic and political sanctions against Iran, alleging that this would make it possible to avoid the use of military measures. Yet as soon as the West European countries approved the sanctions on those terms, the United States resorted to the military adventure against Iran, not even considering it necessary to inform its allies of the fact.

Nonetheless Washington's West European partners are embarking on a "division of labor" within the NATO framework. This enabled the U.S. President to state recently that there is a new "sense of a common spirit and common goals, a sense of partnership and confidence in each other in NATO." Even if you make allowances for the electioneering tone of this statement, J. Carter had definite grounds for making it.

For instance, take the FRG. Bonn's ruling circles are actively advocating the "division of labor." They are supporting the U.S. ruling circles' hegemonist aspirations and drawing West Germany increasingly tightly into military adventures thought up acorss the Atlantic. This is borne out by the scale of the FRG's militarist preparations and its readiness to release the U.S. Armed Forces in Europe to take part in military adventures in other regions. Moreover West Germany, together with some other NATO countries, intends at the Eurogroup session opening tomorrow to discuss the question of the form in which it will take part in the U.S. "quick reaction corps." After that, it is not surprising that on the banks of the Rhine voices are beginning to be heard calling increasingly loudly for the repeal of the restrictions which still remain on the production of some types of weapons in West Germany. In particular Von Hassel, president of the Western European Union Assembly, has just made such a demand.

Nor would the FRG be averse, under the sign of the "division of labor," to taking a direct part in U.S. global adventures. Bonn has long said that, under present conditions, Washington cannot implement leadership of the "free world" alone, and has itself claimed a share in that leadership. Here the most reactionary West German circles are insisting not only on expanding the Bundeswehr's functions within NATO but are also seeking to go beyond that framework and extend the FRG Armed Forces' zone of operation outside the bloc's area of "responsibility."

Finally, FRG imperialist circles have seen in the "division of labor" concept a chance to replace the United States in Europe and to assert their own hegemony in the region. Adm (A. Betge), inspector (commander) of the West German Navy, stated recently: "Since the U.S. and British navies have assumed additional commitments in the Indian Ocean, the Bundesmarine must fill the vacuum left in the North Sea and the Atlantic," that is, assume control of NATO's northern flank. It is no accident that the U.S. BUSINESS WEEK, examining the FRG role in NATO's "division of labor," wrote: "The (West) Germans are now saying much that would have been inconceivable in the past. If they have decided to be allies, then they will be powerful allies--the kind who will decide for themselves what to do."

Practical questions of the implementation of the "division of labor" in NATO and the further intensification of militarist preparations are to be examined by the NATO Military Planning Committee Session which opens on 13 May. Usually this is held at the level of the member countries' defense ministers. But this time the bloc's headquarters have decided to impart a special political nature to the committee's sessions. To this end, on the second day of the session's work foreign ministers will also take part, so that the level will be raised to that of a special session of the NATO Council--the bloc's supreme political organ.

The Western press is publishing few items forecasting the session's results. In any event, its work has already been rehearsed at an extraordinary session of the bloc's Military Planning Committee held a month ago at deputy defense minister level. As usual the tone was set by the Pentagon spokesman, R. Komer. He frankly stated that U.S. troops could be sent to the Persian Gulf region, and that meant that "the Europeans must bear a greater share of the burden involved in ensuring their continent's defense." Komer issued an ultimatum demanding that the NATO members accelerate the implementation of the long-term bloc arms program adopted in 1978 and force on the buildup of military expenditure and the increase in the numbers of combat aircraft and tanks. Special attention was attracted by the U.S. demand that the allies provide for measures for the extensive use of civil aircraft to transport U.S. troops to Europe, the Near East or anywhere else "in the event of a crisis."

Much the same thing was discussed during NATO Secretary General J. Luns' recent U.S. visit. He unquestioningly accepted for execution Washington's instruction to involve the NATO countries more actively in aggressive U.S. policy in the Near and Middle East, which the White House has cynically declared a "sphere of vital U.S. interests," and to ensure "compensation" for the transfer of U.S. troops from West Europe to the Near East through the bloc partners' further buildup of armed forces and arms.

All this gives grounds for concluding that at the NATO Council special session in Brussels on 14 May U.S. demands for the further expansion of the "division of labor" in NATO will also be approved. Quoting diplomatic circles at NATO headquarters in Brussels, AFP reports that the task "will be to distribute duties to be discharged by the allies in the event of a crisis in the Persian Gulf requiring the dispatch there of U.S. troops now stationed in Europe."

These facts, in conjunction with the series of military maneuvers undertaken by the NATO military leadership in West Europe recently, particularly on its southern flank, immediately adjacent to the Near East, attest that NATO's militarist preparations are in the ascendent. The same purpose is served by the "division of labor" concept born in the bowels of NATO. The hegemonist U.S. course in the international arena, its opposition to detente and its wish to resort increasingly frequently to "force" are seriously complicating the international situation.

FRG DEFENSE MINISTER CHAIRS NATO EUROGROUP

LD161049 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 14 May 80 p 5

[Special correspondent Yu. Kharlanov dispatch under the general headline "Stepping Up War Preparations"]

[Text] Brussels, 13 May--At NATO headquarters in Evere today sessions of the North Atlantic bloc's Military Planning Committee were held during which, in particular, consideration was given to the results of the work of the "Eurogroup," which issued a vague and uninformative communique for the press.

At a press conference held by FRG Defense Minister H. Apel, who chaired the Eurogroup, journalists unhappy with the communique's content bombarded him with questions about how the West European NATO members view the attempts to drag them into American adventures in Asia.

The minister carefully avoided directly answering the questions, alluding to the fact that as yet the United States has not announced its intention of transferring its troops from West Europe to the Persian Gulf. The only possible conclusion was that it would suit the minister better if the Pentagon managed to make do with its reserves inside America, without touching the troops in West Europe, otherwise NATO's role as a tool for interference in the affairs of countries thousands of kilometers from the bloc's area of operation would be too unsavory.

The Eurogroup communique and Apel's answers contained overt calls for the arms race in West Europe to be stepped up.

LE DRAPEAU ROUGE, the organ of Belgium's Communist Party, contrasts the present war psychosis in NATO with the socialist countries' consistent peace-loving policy. The states of the Warsaw Pact, the newspaper stresses, are celebrating its 25th anniversary with new proposals aimed at strengthening detente and ending the arms race. The Soviet Union is withdrawing another military contingent from the GDR, contributing to lessing military confrontation in central Europe.

'THREATS AGAINST IRAN' SEEN IN NATO STATEMENT

LD161425 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 May 80 p 5

[Special correspondent Yu. Kharlanov report: "Dangers of the 'Crisis Plan'"]

[Text] Brussels, 14 May--The war ministers of NATO countries gathered in Evere were joined today by the heads of the diplomatic departments of the bloc's members (except France and Greece). Their task includes examining the war minister's decisions.

The communique published after the final session of NATO's Military Planning Committee says that the "situation in southwest Asia demands complete solidarity and increased cohesion among the NATO allies."

The NATO committee adopted a statement including threats against Iran. Speaking at a press conference in Evere, U.S. Secretary of State E. Muskie did not exclude the possibility that Washington could adopt "other measures beside diplomatic and economic measures" against Iran.

NATO's Military Planning Committee is taking a hard line in insisting on the deployment of new American missiles in Western Europe, which is regarded here as a stepping up of pressure on the governments of those West European countries which consider it possible to postpone implementation of that decision.

The main item on the agenda is the discussion of a supplementary "crisis plan" elaborated by the Pentagon in case American troops deployed in Western Europe are needed for adventures in other regions. This plan envisages doubling the quantity of ammunition and strategic reserves located in Western Europe.

PETROV COMMENTS ON DECLINE OF PORTUGUESE SOCIALIST PARTY

LD151526 Moscow in Portuguese to Portugal 1930 GMT 14 May 80

[Text] It has been 7 years since the Congress of the Portuguese Socialist Action, in the FRG, gave birth to the Portuguese Socialist Party [PS]. Here is a commentary by Moscow Radio political observer Sergey Petrov:

On the occasion of this foundation anniversary, it is opportune to look back on the most important moments in the history of one of contemporary Portugal's largest political parties. The emergence of a party which in its very first congress loudly proclaimed its fidelity to the cause of democracy and socialism could not but gladden those who oppose fascism. The socialists' action program also had many promising features. The Socialist Party's aims are--its declaration of principles said--to build a classless socialist society in Portugal, to fight the capitalist system and bourgeoisie's control, and to reject the course taken by those movements which, claiming to be Social Democratic or Socialist, in fact end up preserving capitalist structures and serving imperialist interests.

In 1973, the Socialist Party voiced, through its Secretary General Mario Soares, its wish to come to an agreement with the Communist Party with regard to long-term strategy and establish a lasting alliance. In a nutshell, one got the impression that these utterances sprang from a constructive and realistic stand of the PS, opening up prospects in favor of a revolutionary movement in Portugal.

However, soon after the April Revolution, as the democratic process was gaining ground, the PS leaders' incongruities with their own program became increasingly clear. Taking up the cudgels for "the socialist perspective" and for the "strengthening of the People-Armed Forces Movement [MFA] Alliance," the PS leaders in fact contributed to the preservation of the capitalist positions in the country and sought to isolate the Communist Party from other leftist forces and discredit the leftwing of the MFA.

It would, of course, be unfair to deny the contribution made by ordinary socialists in the antifascist struggle and in the country's post-April development. No doubt, many of them sincerely sought to contribute to the development of the democratic process and to a cooperation with other democratic forces. It suffices to recall the fruitful cooperation between the Socialists and the Communists in local government, in collective production units, in the south, and so on.

However, the same cannot be said of the PS leaders. On virtually all national issues, the Socialists adopted opportunist and reformist stands. Thus, for instance, the PS is the one which took the first step in driving a wedge into the trade union movement. The setting up of the so-called independent trade unions was in pursuance of the aim of a confrontation with the General Confederation of Portuguese Workers-National Intersindical. The PS leaders always showed reservations on democratic reforms aimed at ridding the country of the monopolies and the latifundia. The PS leaders are also to be blamed for the promotion of the anti-communist campaign in the country and for the split in the leftwing forces. All this could not fail to have repercussions on the development of the democratic process. It has, in fact, contributed to the stepping up of the reaction. But the sum and substance of the PS leaders manifested itself patently, above all, in 1976-1978 when the PS led the first and second constitutional governments. It was precisely at this stage that the policy of capitalist restoration received its green light.

By coming out in an unnatural union with the rightwing parties the socialists placed themselves at odds with the forces fighting for the preservation of the main gains of the April revolution. This stand has been reinforced by concrete deeds. It suffices to recall measures such as the Barreto Law, the rescinding of the legislation on trade union unity, the decision to compensate the former owners of enterprises and latifundia, and others adopted by the Mario Soares government.

It is no surprise that such a policy on the part of the PS leaders acted as a disservice to the party itself, resulting in many militants quitting the ranks and hundreds of thousands of electors moving away. Thus, in the interim parliamentary elections last December, the PS lost more than half a million votes in comparison with the constituent assembly elections in 1975.

As can be seen, the logical consequences of the PS's policy, which runs counter to the interests of leftwing unity, was a decline in its influence on the working class and a drop in its prestige in the country.

In the present situation which threatens the destiny of democracy in Portugal and which came about as a result of Sa Carneiro's coming into power, many Portuguese ask: To what extent has the PS managed to draw a lesson from the defeat it suffered recently? And another question also crops up: Would not the Socialists, brushing aside the differences, be capable of responding to the unity call permanently sent out by the Portuguese Communist Party and other leftwing forces? Only the Socialists themselves can provide answers to these questions. But one thing is clear: the April revolution gains, over which hovers a serious threat, can only be defended with the united and energetic actions of all the country's democratic forces, including the Socialists.

PORTUGUESE LEFT TO SEEK BROAD-BASED ELECTION BLOC

ID141217 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 7 May 80 p 4

[Correspondent O. Ignatyev report: "Election Coalition Revived"]

[Text] Lisbon, 6 May--In last year's interim elections to the Assembly of the Republic (parliament) and in local elections leftwing forces, acting within the election bloc of the APU (United People Alliance), achieved considerable successes.

In view of this positive experience the Communist Party and the Popular Democratic Movement [MDP] signed an agreement 5 May on joint action in the Assembly of the Republic elections to be held this fall, within the framework of the APU bloc.

In contrast to the document adopted last year, in the present agreement the Portuguese Communist Party [PCP] and the MDP declare their readiness to consider the possibility of the participation of other democratic political forces, groupings and figures in the APU election bloc in order to give the bloc the greater dynamism and breadth it needs to defend democracy and secure victory over reaction.

At a press conference after the signing of the agreement Carlos Brito, member of the PCP Central Committee Political Commission, answering journalists' questions, explained that the resurrection of the APU bloc has nothing to do with the presidential elections scheduled for the end of this year.

SUPREME SOVIET DELEGATION LEAVES ON VISIT TO SYRIA

LD200905 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 17 May 80 p 4

[TASS report: "On an Official Visit"]

[Text] A USSR Supreme Soviet delegation headed by A.S. Barnauskas, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, left Moscow for Syria 16 May on an official visit at the invitation of that country's parliament.

The delegation arrived in Damascus the same day.

SOVIET-SYRIAN ECONOMIC PROTOCOL SIGNED

LD200907 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 16 May 80 p 5

[Text] Damascus, 15 May, TASS--The fifth session of the Soviet-Syrian Standing Commission on Economic, Scientific and Technical Cooperation has ended here. The sides expressed satisfaction with the state of economic, scientific and technical cooperation and discussed a range of questions on the implementation of Soviet-Syrian agreements in this sphere.

A protocol was signed. On the Soviet side it was signed by S.A. Skachkov, chairman of the USSR State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations, and on the Syrian side--by Salim Yasin, Syrian minister of state for planning affairs.

RELATIONS BETWEEN USSR, SYRIAN MUSLIMS EXAMINED

LD192320 Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1300 GMT 19 May 80

[Text] Today a delegation of Muslim Syrians led by Muhammad al-Khatib, the minister of religious trusts of the Syrian Arab Republic, will arrive in the Soviet Union. Our correspondent, Nikolay Vasilov, says:

The visit of the delegation of the Islamic religion from Syria reflects the strength of relations existing between the Muslims of the Soviet Union and the Muslims of the Syrian Arab Republic. Those relations are of a broad, regular nature.

Suffice it to say that broadly representative Syrian delegation, including those of senior officials of higher caliber, have visited the Soviet Union in recent years. The Muslim circles of the Soviet Union are well acquainted with Shaykh Ahmad Kaftaru, the grand mufti of the Syrian Arab Republic, who has visited our country more than once and who exerts great efforts to consolidate cooperation between the Islamic organizations in the Soviet Union and their counterparts in the Syrian Arab Republic, and who participates personally to a great extent to consolidate friendship between the Soviet and Syrian peoples.

Soviet Islamic Organizations for their part exert similar efforts in the cause of consolidating contacts and friendly relations with their colleagues whether in Syria or other Islamic countries. According to an agreement which was concluded, Soviet Islamic organizations send to Syria and other Arab and Islamic countries widely representative delegations led by the chairmen of the religious boards of the Muslims in various parts of the Soviet Union, for example from the Caucasus, the Volga areas, Siberia, Central Asia and Kazakhstan. The latest delegation which visited Syria was led by Shaykh Abdulgani Abdullayev, chairman of the Muslim Board of Central Asia and Kazakhstan.

Talking to our correspondent, Shaykh Abdullayev said: Meeting with the Muslim brethren of Syria gives me pleasure. He added: Our visit coincided with the opening of a major photographic exhibition in Damascus. It showed the life of the various Soviet peoples. Prominence was given at the exhibition to the life of Soviet Muslims.

Shaykh Abdullayev said: It gave us pleasure to explain the picture to the visitors of the exhibition. We hope that we have contributed effectively toward consolidating rapprochement between the Muslims of our two countries and between the Soviet and Syrian peoples.

At the request of the Radio Moscow correspondent Shaykh Abdullayev spoke about the program for the delegation of Syrian Muslims, religious trusts led by Muhammad al-Khatis, the Syrian minister of Waqfs, during their stay in the Soviet Union. He said: The Syrian guests will have a great chance to acquaint themselves with the life of Muslims in the Soviet Union and to visit historic Islamic monuments in the USSR. In conclusion Shaykh Abdullayev said: I think that our Syrian Muslim bretheren will be able to acquaint themselves with the state of Muslims in the socialist society.

ISRAELI CP STATEMENT ON OCCUPIED LANDS

LD192300 Moscow TASS in English 2012 GMT 19 May 80

[Text] Rome, May 19, TASS--The intentions of the Begin government to continue the colonization of the occupied Western Bank of the Jordan and the Gaza Strip and the desire of the Israeli hawks to deprive the Arab people of Palestine of their right to self-determination and the creation of an independent state deteriorate the situation in the Middle East and prevent peace in the region, says a statement by the Central Committee of the Israeli Communist Party.

The document contains a sharp criticism of the repressions and terror used by the Israeli authorities to crush the will of the Arab people in the occupied territories in their struggle for their rights. The Israeli communists warn, says the statement, that the chauvinist rampage in Israel and the violence of thugs in the occupied territories pose a grave threat to the democratic freedoms of Israeli society.

The Israeli Communist Party calls on all peace-loving and democratic forces of the country to unite in their struggle for an end to the terror and violence in the occupied Arab territories and for the implementation of the U.N. Security Council resolutions on the return of the deported mayors of Hebron and Khalkhul and the Moslem judge of Hebron.

The statement points out that the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Israel considers that the failure of the Camp David deal proves that the settlement of the Middle East problem is possible only on the condition of the complete withdrawal of the Israeli troops from all the occupied Arab territories and the recognition of the legitimate rights of the Arab people of Palestine, including their right to self-determination and the creation of an independent state.

SUPPORT FOR AFRICA RECALLED AS LIBERATION DAY MARKED

LD190140 Moscow in English to Africa 1700 GMT 18 May 80

[Text] On 25 May the progressive public in Africa and the world mark Africa Liberation Day. Our observer today reviews some of the important stages of the development of Soviet-African relations. The declaration of granting independence to the colonial countries and people had a big impact on the historical development of the people of Africa in the past two decades. It was approved by the United Nations General Assembly in December 1960, despite the bitter opposition of the imperialist powers. This is one of the most important documents of the 20th century, and is based on the Soviet draft. Besides, the declaration is an important stimulus for activating the young countries on the international scene. The Soviet Union has in every way encouraged and supported all the progressive political ideas and proposals of the African countries.

Very important was the visit of the Soviet leaders, Leonid Brezhnev, to Guinea and Ghana in 1961. It was in that period that the Western powers tried hard to minimise the role of the young African countries in world politics. In the sixties the colonialists tried desperately to preserve the status quo in the more important countries and regions of Africa. The hardest trials befell the Algerian people. The Soviet Union sided with Algeria from the very beginning of the national liberation struggle. It gave it political, military and material assistance. After Algeria's victory in the anti-colonial war the Soviet Union provided large-scale aid in restoring and developing its economy.

Strong support was also given to the people of Ghana, Guinea Mali, Congo-Brazzaville, Tanzania and a number of other countries in their efforts to attain economic independence and against the policy of blackmail and threats on the part of the former colonialists. The Soviet Union played a big role in frustrating the plans of the neocolonialists to devide Zaire after American agents assassinated the leader of the country, Patrice Lumumba. Similar assistance was given to Nigeria when the Western powers provoked the so-called proclamation of the independence of Biafra and tried to cut off from Nigeria its oil-rich region. The all-round assistance of the Soviet Union also helped to bring closer the victory of the people of Angola, Mozambique, Guinea-Bissau, over Portuguese colonialism. The strength and prestige of the Soviet Union played a big role in undermining the plans of NATO and the South African racists to dismember Angola. The Soviet Union became the true and reliable friend of the working people of Ethiopia to cast off the yoke of the monarch, of the feudals and foreign capitalists.

Back in 1946 the Soviet Union came out in the United Nations with a strong condemnation of race discrimination practised in S uth Africa. In 1962 the UN General Assembly approved a resolution on sanctions against South Africa. It was sponsored by the Afro-Asian countries and the Soviet Union. At the initiative of the Soviet Union, and as a result of its persistent efforts, an international convention on eliminating all forms of race discrimination was concluded in 1965. And since 1961 the Soviet Union has been conducting a consistent policy aimed at granting independence to Namibia, occupied by South Africa.

This year Africa Liberation Day has been marked with the historic victory of the Zimbabwe people. Fifteen years ago the Soviet Union denounced the fascist putsch of Smith and his followers in Rhodesia, branding it as a crime not only against the people of Zimbabwe, but against all of Africa. And throughout the seventies the Soviet Union gave all-round assistance and support to the patriots of Zimbabwe. The Soviet Union and other socialist countries, members of the Warsaw Treaty Organization, in their recent joint declaration welcomed the proclamation of the independence of Zimbabwe. They renewed solidarity with the just struggle of the people of Namibia and the people of South Africa struggling to eliminate the regime of apartheid and race descrimination. The Soviet public observes widely Africa Liberation Day. At the meetings, get-togethers and conferences Soviet men and women voice internationalist solidarity with the people of Africa. And the history of Soviet-African relations shows those are not just words.